Title

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# Title

By Alina882

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Chapter 1

# Bloodlust Part I.

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Bloodlust

By Shifty

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Part I.

Prologue

There are good and evil. There are forces to be reckoned with. Humans living among humans, but are the humans the only creature to roam the earth? Take a look around you. What hide in the deepest darkest corner of your imagination might just come flying and hit you when you are most unaware of the danger lurking in the shadows, just waiting for the right moment to strike. Death stares you down, exposing your most vulnerable side. Maybe evil might just teach you a lesson while at the same time, quenching the thirst off the living.

Chapter One Strange Encounter

It was dark outside. No street lamps were lit, not from where I can see at least. I look at the clock on

my nightstand. The readout was two in the morning. I groaned and rolled over and tried to go back to sleep with no success. So I just laid there 'til the heavy fog over powered me. The sun shone through my window, waking me from my unpleasant dreams. Drenched in sweat, I got up and dress for the day and went to the kitchen to get a bite of something to eat. Raiding the pantry, I decided to make myself some pancakes. As I ate, I went through my list of things I need to get done. After getting things done in the kitchen, I went outside to soak up the sun a bit. To say the least, it was extremely nice to be out. It was eighty-three degrees here in Los Angeles. What more could you ask for? Although, I prefer dark, gloomy, rainy day most of the times; but that's just me. A girl like me probably belonged in Washington or something. Hell, maybe I do better off in Alaska, but the Alaskan cold would kill me.

"Alyssa?"

I heard my father calling me from inside the house. I sigh and grudgingly went back in the house.

"Yes dad?"

My father wasn't the type of person you want to fuck with. Six foot five and two-hundred-fifty pounds would intimidate anyone who tries to get on his bad side.

"Are you going to pick up your brothers and sisters from school today?"

"Yeah...-like three thirty?"

"Yes."

I have twin brothers Leo and Seth. I also have three sisters Breanna, Jane, and Lily. I get along with my siblings surprisingly to say.

"Okay. Do you mind stopping by Heister's grocery and pick up some stuff?"

I sighed. "Sure...I guess..."

My dad handed me the grocery list and a hundred dollars.

"Use it wisely."

"I will, don't worry."

I looked it over. It wasn't a long list which was a good thing, because I had better things to do than running errands for my parents all day.

At three fifteen I headed out the door and on my way to pick up my brothers and sisters. I arrived at Hancock Elementary/Middle School 5 minutes early so I just waited and mull over my stupid English homework assignment which was to be due the very next day. I am a junior at Clint High School. I wish school was over with so I don't have to deal with my pathetic gay ass teachers anymore. It drove me insane technically every day. Sometimes I wonder if they are doing that for the sake of it or just to see how far I would go with hiding my anger towards everything. I didn't notice when my five siblings got in the car 'til they called my name.

"Oh!"

"Um... are you okay?" Seth asked me timidly.

I smiled down at him. "Yeah I'm okay. You just startled me for a sec."

Jane busted out laughing. "Wow! That was the first!"

"Yeah, right!?" shouted Lily.

Then they all started laughing. I just sat there looking at them with a huge smile on my face, trying not to burst out laughing myself. After the laughter had died down, I finally broke the silence.

"We're stopping by Heister to pick up some stuff for dad."

"What are we getting?" Jane asked me sheepishly.

"I don't know and I don't really care. Let's just go and get this done and over with."

They all nodded in agreement with me. I start up the engine and off to the grocery store. After getting everything that was on the list, I decided to get myself coffee so I stopped by the shop down the street before heading home. Everybody got muffins except for Bre. She got herself chocolate chip cookie and a bottle of coke. As we unload the groceries and putting it away in their proper places. The phone rang. I wonder who it could be. It's probably one of my parent's friends on the other end. I answered the phone. I was right after all. It was for Sam, my dad.

Mich had invited him over for barbecue. I didn't like any of my dad's friends. I guess Mich was okay. Maybe it's because he works with the LAPD. I helped out around the house with doing most of the chores. The day dragged on, and I finally got the chance to finish my paper for school . It was four pages long. After all that hard work I've put into that damn thing. It better be perfect. By the time I was done, it was nine twenty-five. I went to take a shower and got ready for bed. The night air was calm and cool through my opened window as I drifted to sleep.

When I woke up the next day to the sound of my annoying alarm, it was quiet. Usually I would hear Bre getting ready for school. Maybe today I was the first to wake in this desolate house of mine-wouldn't be the first. I glanced at the time. It was six-ten apparently still dark outside. I growled and jump out of bed hoping for a good day. It was Friday after all, and Friday was my favorite day of the week-mostly because it was the start of the weekend. I got ready and dressed quickly and went to check on the others. My mom Theresa and my dad Sam was already off to work. My father worked as a fire fighter for the Los

Angeles Fire Department, and my mother was a nurse at Hollywood Health Hospital. Both of my parents were busy with their jobs so I'm always in charge of the household. I have to admit, my siblings would somehow always make my day a lot easier by helping me with whatever I need. Seven o'clock finally rolled around. I went to wake Seth, Leo, Jane, and Lily. I made sure that they were ready for school before heading out. I told Bre to make breakfast for them and said good-bye to everyone. When I got to Clint High, I reread my paper to make sure that I was satisfied with what I had written. I sighed deeply and got out of my car and headed towards the students parking lot door on the south side of the school. The school building looked plain and dull like most high school. The floor was white like usual, and the walls were white with blue in the center. At least there were no red in the mix of it all. Who needs a patriotic color to represent the school anyways? Our mascot changes every year so I don't pay attention to it anymore. Nearly half of the school doesn't notice the change anyways. I walked to my English class which was located upstairs on the second floor. I was the

first in class today. Wow... what a surprise. I sat myself at the back of the room and took out my assignment and waited for the others to arrive. Dueling on my notebook, I didn't realize the others assembling in until a tall boy with brown hair and brown eyes called out my name.

"Hey Alyssa," Jason said with a smirk on his face.

"Hi."

"Did you get your paper finished?"

"What do you think?" I didn't like him much, but I can tell that he did admire me in some ways. "Of course I did, you twit!"

"Sorry...! Did I offend you with my annoyance?"

I growled at him. "Why don't you just shut up?"

For once, he gave me a dirty look and fell into silence. Before he can say another word, Mrs. Winston came in and told us to get our assignments out. Of course, I was already prepared for it. She came around and collected all the papers.

"You'll know your grades by next Friday," she said with a smile on her stupid face.

Today the class was boring as usual. Learning the parts of speech, ugh! When the bell rang, I hurried out to my Chemistry class where Mrs. Claural was setting up the lab. I went to my table and read the overhead. The agenda for today lesson was to see the reaction of each chemical when mix with water and vinegar. The day went by super slow. I sighed in relief when three o'clock finally came around. I headed out and got in my car. As usual, I went to pick up my siblings from Hancock Elementary/Middle School. They were waiting for me when I arrived. All five got in and we were off. The car ride was silent except that Bre was complaining about her group project for Science. I parked the car in the driveway and got out. We all went inside and put our school junk away. I made chicken and mash potatoes for dinner. We ate and complain about the day. After everything was cleaned up, I planned to go out for a nice long walk by myself. I told Bre to watch the house while I was gone. She's like second in command or something when it comes to house sitting.

"Okay, do I have a list of things to do or what?"

I giggled. "A list...?" I asked her confused.

"Yeah... Most likely because mom and dad usually always have a list of phone numbers or something."

I thought about it for a while. I trusted Breanna when she's suppose to do something major. I looked towards the refrigerator. The list of emergency numbers was already posted there. Apparently Bre didn't see it.

"Um... the numbers are on the fridge."

I pointed towards the sticky note on the refrigerator door.

"Oh! God do I feel stupid."

I laughed and she joined in.

"Well... then..."

"Well then what?" I asked.

"Hmm... I guess you can go now."

I got up and started to the door.

"I'll make sure to call when something goes wrong!" she yelled back at me.

"Okay!" I yelled back.

I opened the door and stepped outside, closing the door behind me.

It was windy out here, but nice for a walk. The wind blew my hair wildly as I walked down the street. I was a mile out from my house when I saw someone half way down the sidewalk from me. He stared at me for a long time. I kept on walking like I didn't see anything out of the ordinary. As I got closer, I paused in my track mesmerized by this person. I looked at him for a long time, wondering why I couldn't even say hi to him. He had blond spiky hair, pale white skin, but not the snowy white color kind, and he had brown eyes. He looked to be about six foot four or five inches tall. He was wearing all black though. I couldn't get my head around that, but all the same, I was frozen by this person. I couldn't imagine anyone looking so good in my entire 17 years of life. I'm such a jackass! I thought to myself. I managed to focus and walked on. I took several steps forward, but stopped

again as I realized that someone was following me. I turned around and it was the same person that made me stop in my track half a minute ago. The stare he was giving me was the look of, you better run look, but I couldn't, no matter how hard I tried. He stiffened when I turned around so suddenly. It looked like he was trying to keep something under control. He kept on staring at me, waiting. I didn't know what to do or what to say. I looked up at him, wondering what he would do. He stepped closer to me. I held my breath, hoping he wouldn't pull out a knife or a gun and kill me on the spot. He sniffed the air and licked his lips. What was up with this guy? I thought in my head as he stepped even closer to me. I backed away from him. Was this guy going to kill me... or what? A million things were running through my head at this point. Should I run? Should I say something? Should I wait until he makes a move? Should I wait until he says something? He looked at me curiously. I looked back at him with the same expression on my face. He smiled at me, but didn't say anything. A shiver rolled down my spine as I stared up into his face.

"Hello...," he said.

His voice was low, raspy, and whispery. The type of voice that would; Send you running the opposite direction, hold you in place, or confused you to the point where nothing is no longer clear in your mind. As for me, I was frozen in place. I was still in shock by the tension that was emanating from him. I took a deep breath to find my voice.

"Hi." I said shyly.

"Why do you look like you're about to pass out on me?" he asked me, still a smile on his face.

I couldn't find the right response to his question.

"Um... uh..." I struggle to find the words, but nothing came to mind. "I don't... know." I half admitted.

"Hmm... what is your name...?"

I am about to die of shock or embarrassment and he's asking for my name?

"My name is... Alyssa."

"It's nice to meet you, Alyssa... I am Trynnadon."

Without thinking about what I was doing, I held out my hand to shake his. He hesitated and took my hand

firmly in his. The handshake only lasted for a second, because I automatically withdrew my hand out of his. It was like shaking a person's hand after they have come back inside from the freezing weather. We were in California for god sake and this strange person in front of me has a freezing hand? I wonder why? All of these thoughts were running through my head. He stopped smiling now. His intense gaze became more pronounced as I stared back at him.

"Hmm..." I held my breath again. "Why don't you walk with me for a minute...?"

I looked around, making sure I was alone-didn't want anybody watching me like I am some type of freak or seeing my face, probably bright red by now. He bent down and leaned in to me. He inhaled the air around me and licked his lower lip while straightening up.

"So...?"

He was waiting for me to answer.

"Um... okay."

He smiled and gestured to me to follow. We walked down two blocks and made a left-hand turn into a

dark alley. My heart started to pound erratically. He smiled down at me.

"I won't hurt you."

I took a deep breath to slow down my heart. He can hear my heart beating? He must have good ears or something. He stopped and turned to me.

"You shouldn't be out here alone..."

"I was just out for a walk."

"Really...?"

"Um... yeah;"

He sniffed the air again.

"How old are you, Alyssa?"

I took a while to answer.

"I'm seventeen. Why?"

"I was just wondering..."

I noticed the blue bracelet he was wearing. I looked at it curiously. He didn't miss it.

"What is that bracelet you're wearing?" I asked, "If you don't mind me asking."

"It's a tracking bracelet."

I had no clue what that meant, but I wasn't about to ask. He led the way deeper into the darkness.

"Um... where are you taking me?" I asked him shyly.

"Oh... don't... worry... sweetness..."

By this time I was more afraid for my life. He chuckled under his breath.

"If I were you, I wouldn't listen to anyone that I don't know..."

My breathing sped up. He grinned at me.

"I'll give you a chance to run now, if you wish."

I wanted to run. I turned around and ran back the way we came. This time he wasn't following me. I ran and didn't stop until I was safe on my street.

I paused before my door to slow down my panting. After my breathing was under control, I opened the door and went inside. My parents were still not

home. The only time they were home is when my siblings and I were all at school.

"What happened to you?" Lily asked me suspiciously.

"Nothing, I was running instead of walking," I lied.

I hope she didn't see through me. I was a good liar, but this time, it was really hard to keep a straight face after what I've been through.

"Oh?"

Lily looked at me a minute longer and let it go. I went to my room and started on my homework for French. It was fairly easy so I finished it in a matter of fifteen minutes. I heard a knock on my door.

"Who is it?" I called out.

"It's me I need your help with something."

I opened the door. Bre was standing there with a paper in her hand.

"What do you need help with?" I asked her as she stepped in my room and close the door.

She handed me the paper with the instructions of what to do. I read the direction and gave the paper back to her.

"So... can you help me?" she asked with a hopeful smile.

"Yeah, did you pay attention in class?" I smiled at her.

"Of course I didn't. Science is the most boring class you can be in. Honestly, I rather take Spanish over science any day."

She strode over to my desk, stealing a pencil from the cup, and sat in my chair.

"Idiot..." I said to her.

She grinned at me.

"Sorry, I should've asked first."

I laughed. "Whatever," I said, sticking my tongue out at her.

She looked at me. "Are you going to tell me how to make a tornado or not?"

I ripped out a piece of notebook paper and wrote the tornado instructions down. It wasn't that hard to be honest. Bre watched me with amazement as I finished up the tornado project and then handing it to her. She copied it on the assignment sheet.

"I knew you would know how to do it," she said, smiling.

"By the way, can I keep this pencil? I kind of like it actually."

I thought about it for a minute.

"Okay, you can have it."

"Thanks!"

"That was one of my favorite one, you know."

She just looked at me and said, "oh well, you can always buy a new one."

She finished writing the tornado instructions and got up from my desk.

"Thanks again."

"No problem."

She left my room and I was alone again.

My mind went back to my walk earlier today, and a million questions popped in my head. Who was that guy I met today? Why was I so mesmerized by him, but yet so terrified at the same time? Just then I heard a tap on my window. I froze in place. I moved slowly to my window, opening the curtain an inch, and peered out into the night. I couldn't see anything. Was I just hearing things? Was my imagination running wild? What the fuck was wrong with me?

"Alyssa!" I heard Jane calling me.

I went to check what was going on.

"Leo has a bloody nose." Lily told me once I got into the living room.

I couldn't help it, but giggle.

"What happened?" I asked.

"Lily punched me," Leo said, moaning softly to himself.

"He deserved it!" Lily exclaimed.

"Okay, that's enough you two." I told them, smiling a little.

Seth got an ice pack out of the freezer and wrapped it in paper towel and handed to Leo.

"Here, put this on your nose," Seth said, with a smirk on his face.

"Tilt your head back and pinch your nose too," Jane said, wanting a turn on giving advice for once.

I, on the other hand was wondering why they called me when they know what to do without my help. I silently went back to my room, muttering to myself all the while. I didn't know what time it was, but I fell asleep when I got into my cozy bed. Before I knew it, I was awakened by my mom around ten o'clock. My mom wasn't tall like my dad was. She was five foot six and slender compared to my six foot five father. Her long blond hair hung loosely down the middle of her back. Her blue eyes were staring into mine.

"I didn't mean to wake you. How was your day?"

"It was okay. Everything went well, same as usual."

"That's good to hear," my mom said to me, smiling.

"I'll let you go back to sleep now. Again, I'm sorry to wake you."

"No, that's okay."

She kissed me and left my room, closing the door softly behind her. I slipped into my dreamless peaceful sleep once more.

It felt like I've only slept for half an hour when I was awakened by Bre. She was bouncing up and down on my bed. It was eleven forty-five in the morning. I stretched and groaned.

"What do you want?"

"Mom is making lunch. It's going to be ready in ten minutes."

I yawned and stretched once more.

"Okay, wake me up in ten minutes then."

She poked me in the ribs.

"No, no, no... wake up sleepyhead. You sleep way too much."

I growled. "Fine, fine, fine..."

I sat up in bed wiping the sleep from my eyes.

"Now I have to wake up the other. See you in the kitchen."

"Um yeah... sure;"

She hopped off my bed and out the door. I sighed and threw the cover off myself. I went to wash up before anybody else makes it into the bathroom before I could. The aroma of pork and baked beans did the work of fully waking me up. My stomach growled. I hope no one heard that. I went to the kitchen where Jane, Lily, and Bre were already in place.

"Good morning sleepyhead," my mom said to me as I entered.

"Where are Leo and Seth?" I asked Bre.

"Oh, they're coming. Don't worry. They're just slow. You know how boys are."

I pull out a chair and seated myself.

"Would you like coffee, Alyssa?"

"Sure."

My mom scoop one spoon of ground coffee into the filter, poured the water in the back of the coffee maker, and closed it before hitting the start button.

"Where's dad?" Jane asked around.

"He already took off to the fire station an hour ago." My mom addressed to all of us instead of just answering to Jane alone.

My mom handed me the coffee five minutes later. I added two teaspoons of cream and sugar and sipped at it slowly. Leo and Seth stumbled in the kitchen and fell into an empty chair. I didn't notice it when Bre squirted Seth and Leo with water gun. They both jumped, and we all burst out laughing. Seth punched Bre in the arm.

"It's time to wake up boys!" she said, still laughing.

We all jumped when the doorbell rang. Who would bother coming here around this time? My mom went around into the living room to answer the door. My siblings and I just sat there staring at each other with the same question in our heads.

## Chapter Two Slipping

My mom casually greeted the person that was at the door.

"Hello. Can I help you?"

"I live just down the street from here."

I heard the familiar voice of that person before, and it sent chills down my spine.

"Oh... Really...?"

"Yes, I was just walking around the neighborhood for something to do."

"Oh, come in and make yourself comfortable."

I cursed under my breath. How stupid can my own mother be?

"Thank you for inviting me in."

"Not a problem. Come in and introduce yourself. We were just about to eat lunch."

Everybody around the table just stared at each other, bewildered. I heard my mom and the visitor coming around so I managed to compose myself before they

entered. My brothers and sisters did the same. We acted like nothing unusual was going on. Bre cleared her throat.

"So...! What do you want to do after lunch?" She looked at me, waiting.

"Uh... I have no clue. Do you have anything in mind?"

"Nope... I just thought you had an idea planned out for today."

At that moment, both my mom and the visitor came in the kitchen. He looked a little paler since our last encounter last night. Seth started choking. We all looked at him. He ran to get himself a glass of water. He drank until he was satisfied that he wouldn't choke on air anymore. At the same time, our visitor stiffened up, but relaxed before anyone, but me notice that something was up. Seth slowly walked back to the table.

"Lunch is ready. The pork chops are here on the counter, and the baked beans are in the pot."

We all got up and went around to the counter. My mom gestured to the visitor to have a seat. He pulled

out the next available chair and sat down, looking around the kitchen. We all got food and went back to the table. Bre whispered in my ear,

"Did you see him stiffened when Seth ran passed him?" she asked me.

I guess I wasn't the only one that noticed it. I nodded. She sat down and began cutting the pork chops. My mom didn't ask our visitor if he wanted anything. She just handed it to him. He eyed the food questioningly and began eating like the rest of us. She looked at him a minute later.

"Why don't you introduce yourself to us?"

He looked up from his plate and looked at all of us carefully, probably judging our reaction to him.

"My name is Trynnadon."

My mom seems to be the only one comfortable enough around him.

"It's nice to meet you, Trynnadon. I am Theresa and these are my children." She looked at us then.

"Why don't you all tell Trynnadon your names?" All six of us looked at each other. "Why don't you start?" She said to Bre.

She hesitated and looked at Trynnadon. "My name is Breanna."

My mom spoke again. Let's go around the table. I was after Bre.

"I am Alyssa." I said timidly.

It went around to Jane, Seth, Lily, and then to Leo. Trynnadon looked at all of us including my mom this time, and said, "It's nice to meet all of you."

We continued eating while my mom made conversation with him. When everything was picked up and put away, I went to the living room to join my sisters while Leo and Seth went outside to play.

"How long are you planning to stay?" my mom asked him a minute after I entered the living room. He didn't answer so she asked him another question.

"I'm about to leave for work. Do you mind watching the kids?"

My sisters and I held our breath.

"Uh... sure... The kids and I will have no problem keeping up with the tasks," he told my mom as she started for the door.

We slowly let air out of our lungs and said good-bye to our stupid brainless mother.

I haven't notice when he entered the room until it felt like someone was staring at me. How silently can he move? I thought to myself as I met his gaze. Jane, Bre, and Lily were now staring at him too. He moved closer to Jane. She backed away from him. He smiled at her and in a flash! He was in front of her. Jane stiffened at his menace stare. He turned to face me now.

"I think you should teach a certain member of the family a lesson."

I knew who he was talking about.

"Don't you think...?"

He turned back to Jane now. As he touched her neck, she flinched from his touch. He smiled again. He

stopped touching her and backed away. Jane ran into the hall towards her room. Lily followed behind her. I heard the door closing and a soft click. I didn't know that Bre was behind me.

"Being the big sister? How sweet... of you to defend her, but that's not necessary."

I looked at him confusion showing on my face. Bre saw the same and poked my back hard which made me turn around. He laughed quietly. When I turned around to face him, he was gone! I searched, but found nothing.

"Trynnadon?"

He appeared out of thin air in front of me.

"You can call me... Tryn for short..."

I stared at him in shock, once again. A low growl came from him. Bre, this time, didn't bother to stay. She screamed and ran outside to be with Seth and Leo, I guessed. I couldn't even move a muscle. I started to breathe heavily.

"Don't worry... I won't kill you."

He smiled at me and came closer. I stared up at his face. I noticed that his eyes were no longer brown, but black with a tint of red around it. I begged him not to hurt me over and over again.

"Never... invite a stranger into your home. Do me a favor and tell Theresa that."

I nodded as sweat dripped down my face. He growled again, but this time louder. I backed away quickly. He sniffed the air, groaned, and stiffened yet again.

"I'm sorry..." he said and launched himself at me knocking me to the ground.

I tried to scream, but no sound would escape me when I tried. It felt like my tongue rolled inward for a second and back to normal. He held me down on the ground as I attempt to break free of his steel grip.

"No... need to scream," he hissed at me.

I tried to say something, but I couldn't, no matter how much force I put in to it. Was he doing this to me? Was he keeping me from making a sound? I stared into his eyes. No red now exist in that black eyes. I tried to scream again, no sound came out. He

smiled. As I stared into his eyes, I noticed that I was getting sleepy. I tried to keep my eyes open with no success, but I can still feel him holding me. I heard his growl again, but this time closer. Before I can clear my head, I felt a sharp stinging pain on my neck. I couldn't move or make a sound, but I can totally feel the pain. I felt him breathing and right then I knew what was happening to me. The pain was more intense as his fangs slowly pierced deeper and deeper into my neck. I can feel his tongue on my neck. I can feel the life draining out of me as I got weaker and weaker. I drifted out of consciousness as he sucked my last few drops of blood out of me.

When I finally came to, I was surrounded by my brothers and sisters. All of them had a questioning look on their face. My eyes searched around the room, but the vampire was nowhere to be found. I can still feel the stinging sensation. My hand went to my neck and found where he had bit me. It felt warm under my touch. I didn't feel any punctured marks or any bruising like I had expected.

"Are you okay?" Bre asked me, her hands trembling.

"Yeah, I think so." They all sighed in relief.

"What did he do to you?" Jane asked me. Her voice broke on the last word while she spoke.

I didn't want her to know. So I just ignored her question altogether. I got up to a sitting position, but didn't stand due to my energy level. I didn't realize that I was cold 'til I sat up. I can feel the blood pulsing through my body. It felt like a thousand needles gently prodding me. It helped a little with the cold, but not much. Jane gasp and I turned my head to see why. He was there, standing about ten feet from us. He smiled and walked forward until he was three feet away from us.

"I'm sorry... I couldn't control it any longer..." he said to me. I shivered just thinking about it. His eyes were ruby now.

"What did you do to her?" Seth asked him quietly.

"Hmm... I can show you..."

Seth cringed. "Um... No thanks!"

He snickered softly at my brother.

Seth turned to me. "Um... what did he do to you?"

"Uh...! I..." I shook my head trying to find a way to answer him. I finally made up my mind. "Seth, I'll tell you later, not now." He sighed and gave up.

I could tell that he wanted to know the answer now, but I didn't know what to say just yet.

"Dad is going to be home in five minutes," Lily finally said, breaking the long silence. Three minutes passed by quickly.

"In that case... I think I should leave now."

We all watched as Trynnadon vanished out of sight. I stood up finally, and went to the kitchen to heat up the leftover pork chops and baked beans. I heard the car door slammed outside and tried to act natural. My dad walked through the front door and greeted my brothers and sisters.

"Where's Alyssa?"

"She's heating up leftovers from lunch," Seth told him.

"Hey there, Alyssa," I heard him called from the living room

"Hi dad," I said back, hoping he's not coming in yet.

I saw him heading towards the hallway. I turned back towards the pot simmering on the stove. I decided to put the pork chops in the microwave setting it for 2 minutes. I heard the shower water turning on, so I turned off the stove and went to the living room. My dad can manage the rest without me pacing around the kitchen, waiting for him to get out of the shower. Seth and Jane were playing Uno and asked if I wanted to join in. I told them that I would wait until they were finished with the first round. Jane won the first round of the game. We played three rounds I won two out of three. After the game, we all just sat there and talk about nonchalant topics and played various different types of board games all night long. It was around midnight when we all silently crept back to our room for bed. I didn't even bother changing my clothes. I slipped in to my bed and waited for sleep to come over me. My head was

clouded with the earlier event that took place today and it was impossible for me to fall asleep.

I got up and went to Bre's room to check if she was awake. I quietly open the door an inch and peeked in. She was lying on her bed, eyes wide open. It looked like she was watching or listening for something. I opened the door wider and went inside, closing the door before walking any further. Bre sat up and swung her legs to the side of the bed. I went to sit next to her.

"You couldn't sleep either?" I asked her in a whisper.

She shook her head. Bre was an inch or so shorter than me, her wavy blond hair coming down to her shoulder, and her blue eyes staring up towards the ceiling with burning questions in them. She looked at me and leaned in.

"So... what happened after I ran outside? You know... earlier today." I sighed. "I promise I won't tell anyone. Please...? Tell me. I'm begging you."

When it comes to keeping a secret, Breanna is the only person I could trust to keep it quiet.

"Okay, I'll tell you," I said to her. She leaned back and waited for me to begin. "When you ran outside, I planned to follow you, but I couldn't even move a muscle."

"How come you didn't tell me to wait for you then?"

"I tried, but I couldn't get myself to say a word." I stared at the curtain and continued on.

"He told me to tell mom about never inviting a stranger in."

Bre swore under her breath. I could make out some of the words she was saying and I cold heartedly agreed with her choice of words.

"Go on," Bre said in a whisper.

"Well before he told me what to tell mom, he told me that he wouldn't kill me and came closer to me."

I heard Bre taking a deep breath and holding it.

"Well... he growled and stiffened again and told me he was sorry."

"Keep going..." she urged on to keep me talking.

I shivered and continued on.

"Um... well... he jumped on me and held me down."

Bre gasp and I knew what she was thinking.

"And then what happened!?" she asked me nervously.

I turned to look at her now. She was tensed up, preparing for my answer. "He..." I couldn't even tell her.

"What did he do?" Bre asked impatiently. I held my breath and tried again.

"He bit me."

Bre and I sat there in silence for the longest time. I didn't know how many minutes have passed, but she finally got up and went to the window and closed it. She slowly walked to her desk and sat down in a chair. She turned to face me a moment later.

"I knew he bit you before you told me," she said, shuddering at the thought.

"You did?"

"Yeah... I didn't want to say anything in front of Seth, Leo, Jane, Lily, and definitely not Tryn."

I looked at her in disbelief. "How did you know?"

"Well actually... I didn't until you touch your neck. It was red so I figured he must've bit you, and we found you unconscious."

I have to say that Bre is too smart for an eighth grader, from my perspective at least.

"Why did you close the window?" I asked her curiously.

She smiled. "Cause he might be listening..."

"Or watching," I interjected.

"Yeah... that too," she agreed.

She looked at the clock on her desk. "It's almost three A.M. Think we should try to get some sleep?"

I nodded in agreement with her. I got up and walked to the door, but turned around, because she was following me.

"Thanks for telling me."

"No problem," I told her as I opened the door.

She went back and jumped on the bed. I closed the door softly and went to my room. I was getting tired now. I got into my own bed and didn't bother to put the blanket over me. I fell asleep a minute or so later. I felt something cold touching my arm. I have to be dreaming. I told myself, but the coldness didn't go away. I turned over hoping the cold would subside. It did for a second, but this time, it was on my neck now. My eyes flew open. I searched around, but didn't find anything out of place. I sighed and fell asleep again. I was half awake when I felt someone holding me to my bed. I shook myself awake. Whatever was holding me was no longer there. I opened my eyes and searched again. Like before, I couldn't find anything out of the ordinary. I couldn't go back to sleep, in fear that something horrible would happen to me. I just laid there staring at the ceiling, waiting, listening. I don't know how long I stayed up, but eventually I fell asleep with no further incident.

I had a dream that I was being bitten again. This time, it was extremely painful. I couldn't see anything in my dream. Everything was all dark and hazy. The pain grew more and more intense. I woke up gasping. The pressure was gone, but the pain was still there. I was sweating and out of breath. I sat up and looked around. It was still a little dark outside. I looked at the time it was six in the morning. My hand instinctively went to my neck where the pain is. It was hot under my fingers. I moaned and search my room again. I decided not to go back to sleep. I got up and went to the bathroom to wash up. I slowly breathe through my nose and out my mouth to ease the pain. I stood there for a while or until I had full use of my body to jump in the shower. After I finished up in the bathroom, I cautiously went back to my room. Seth and Leo were there, sitting at my desk.

"Um... what are you two doing here?" I asked.

"We were just waiting for you to get out of the shower so you can make us breakfast," Leo said winking at me.

"I'll make breakfast after I'm done dressing," I told them.

I shoved my brothers out the door and went to my closet. I pulled out a white t-shirt and blue jeans and dressed quickly. I threw my door open and half ran in to the kitchen. My brothers were waiting for me. Seth was flipping through a sport magazine while Leo babbled on and on about his drum recital tomorrow night. I could tell that Seth was half listening. He was more in to his magazine. I cleared my throat. They both looked up at me.

"Anything in particular you like to eat?" I asked them, walking to the refrigerator and opening it.

"Anything," Leo said. Seth nodded in agreement.

I decided to make scrambled eggs and sausage. I made enough for six and went to wake the others before eating mine. We finished eating and washed it down with orange juice. I finished putting things away in the kitchen while Bre and Lily were doing the dishes. Jane went to get the mail and I went to the living room to watch some TV. Sunday was boring as usual. My mom and dad didn't make it home until

dinner. I didn't feel like making anything so we just ordered out. I helped Seth with his language homework and listen to Leo practicing for his drum solo. The recital was to be held in the school auditorium tomorrow night at seven. All of us were going except for mom and dad of course. They were not allowed to miss a day or take a half day off to go watch him play.

I finally went to my room. I pulled out my notebook and went to my desk and started drawing random shapes just to pass the time. I had the feeling that somebody was behind me, but when I turned around no one was there. Why do I keep thinking that someone is in the room with me? I swear there's something wrong with me. I must be insane. Just then I felt something cold touching the back of my neck. I whipped my head around and found nothing. I growled and got up and start pacing around the room. The door banged open, and I halted to a stop. Bre was out of breath. She pulled me along with her out to the hall. She squeezed me so tight that I nearly fell over.

"What's wrong?" I asked her."

"I saw someone in my room," she said still out of breath.

I tensed up. "Who was it?"

"I don't know. I couldn't make out who it was. It scared the living shit! out of me, that's what."

"Hmm... I think someone was in my room too." Bre looked at me perplexed now.

"I didn't know who it was either. Every time I turned around, no one was there."

"Freaky shit! Isn't it?"

"Yeah... you can say that! again."

Seth came around the corner. "What are you two talking about?"

"Um... nothing..." Bre and I said in unison. Of course... he didn't believe us.

"Sure... c'mon tell me. I want to be on the secret too!"

"No, go away before I hurt you!" said Bre.

When he didn't move, she advanced on him. Seth ran away quickly before she can land a sucker punch at him. Bre and I both went back to our room before anyone else found us whispering in the hall. For something to do, I looked through my school work and made sure that everything was ready for tomorrow. At least I didn't have to rush in the morning. I decided to go to bed after I ran out of things to do. It was ten thirty so I went to make sure everyone else was in bed before turning out the lights.

The next morning was the same as usual. I got my things and was off to school. I walked off to my first class, but was stopped halfway. A fight broke out between three boys. I just stood there and watched. When the one minute bell sounded, I ran back and took a different route to class. I made it in time just before Mrs. Winston knew that I was a bit late. I checked the blackboard for today's lesson. It was the same as Friday, the parts of speech. I sighed and pretended to listen. The day couldn't go by any slower. Chemistry was boring, and I was daydreaming in French class. After lunch, I was

called down to the office. I cursed over and over on my way there. The principle, Mr. Shelton was a short and chubby type of dude with grey hair. He looked to be in his fifties or sixties. He wanted to question me about the fight earlier today. I told him what I saw and who was involved. I didn't care if I was considered a snitch or not. I can take them all out one by one if I wanted to. I was told that I would remain anonymous, but I knew that I wouldn't, because I was the only one who saw the fight going on. School finally led out, and I was glad to be done for the day!

Chapter Three Mysterious and Troubling

We got home around three forty-five. Everybody was getting ready to have a good time at the recital. My mom called to check up on us and wished Leo good luck on his drum solo. Bre and I did Jane and Lily's hair and picked out nice clothes for them to wear. We snacked on chips and cookies instead of having a real dinner. We played two games of Monopoly and a game of Trivia Pursuit. Leo had to be at school for the rehearsal at six-fifteen so we left the house at five-fifty. We arrived at Hancock shortly after six-ten and

walked Leo to the band room where he was suppose to meet the others. We went to find a good seat in the auditorium so we can get a good view of the stage. I handed our tickets to the ticket lady. She gave us a program, and we entered the auditorium. The auditorium wasn't big, but wasn't that small either. It was a good size to fit at least a hundred seats. People were still coming in so we hurried to the front before anyone can beat us there, of course without trying to run. We still had half an hour before the show start. I didn't know if food and drinks were allowed so I told Seth to buy Jane something that she can finish in three minutes time. Seth came back with an ice cream sandwich and Jane took it from his hand eagerly. She finished it quickly before anybody noticed her eating it. Bre was having fun with her digital camera, taking pictures of the set before the light came down and the curtains closing.

The show started off nicely. The Hancock Choir was the first to go on. They sang four songs. Next it was the announcements from the school's band director which lasted for like five minutes, but it felt like longer to me. Then the fifth grade symphony was up.

They played three songs. I turned to check on my brother and sisters. Seth, Jane, and Lily were half asleep, and Bre, well, was just bored out of her mind. I turned back to face the front and listened to the drum line performed by the fifth graders. After the drum line was finished, it was time for a five minute intermission. I nudged Lily awake. Bre turned to me then.

"I hate coming to this kind of shows," she complained. All of us agreed with her.

"I just want to see Leo's part and go home, not sit here and bored the fuck out of myself for an hour and a half."

She went on talking in a whisper until the lights dimmed. We all sighed and leaned back to watch the show again.

"Don't fall asleep," I said to Seth, Lily, and Jane.

"We'll try..." Seth said smiling.

The six graders were now up. I look at the program for the first time since the beginning of the show.

First up on the list was the six grade recognition award. I poked Lily awake.

"It's the recognition award. Stay awake," I whispered to her.

Different types of award were handed out. We all cheered when Leo won the award for Best percussionist. The show finally rapped up with the six grade drum solos. Leo was second to last. We cheered him on throughout the whole thing. Lily, Seth, Bre, Jane, and I went to wait by the band room for him. When he saw us, he broke free of the crowd and came to us. We congratulated him and gave him a hug.

"Nice job bro!" Seth said with a big grin.

"Thanks! Did you guys like it?"

"Yours was the best!" Jane said, smiling up at him.

"Cool!"

"You ready to go?" I asked.

"I sure am," said Bre.

We all started towards the door. It was fifteen after nine by the time we got home. Dad greeted us and congratulated Leo for his award and asked how the show was.

"I took pictures," Bre said.

She showed it to us. It was nice and clear.

"Show that to mom when you see her," my dad said to her.

"Don't worry... I will."

My dad said goodnight to us and went off to bed. Everybody went their separate ways now. I decided to get something to eat before calling it a night.

The week went by slowly like usual. I spent some quality time with each of my parent, since I don't get to see them much. School is boring like always. I helped out with homework and made sure the house was cleaned up and everything was in order. I got my grade for the English paper and I was satisfied with an A minus.

"Alyssa!" I heard Bre calling me. I went to see what she wanted. I found her outside with Jane and Lily.

"What?" I asked.

She pointed towards the street where an ice cream truck was coming around. "Do you want anything?"

"Let's go and see what she has."

I took a peek in the ice cream cart. I bought myself strawberry shortcake for a dollar. My sister got themselves one of those ice creams that you push up and comes in a variety of flavor. We walked back inside and followed Bre to her room.

"Close the door and lock it," Bre said to Lily since she was the last to enter.

I perched myself on her desk while the others just stood around.

"So anyways... what is everybody up to?" Bre asked, looking towards the door.

"Why are you staring at the door for?" Jane asked her, confused.

"I'm just listening to see if those idiots are coming. Eat quickly before they bust down my door." We all laughed.

"I can finish mine in two bites," I said to them. Jane stuck her tongue out at me. "Nice tongue..."

"What?"

Bre giggled. "Your tongue is blue."

"Oh, yours probably green then."

"Hmm... you're probably right," said Bre.

We talked about random stuff while we finished eating. I was the first to finish. I heard Seth and Leo outside the door. Bre gathered all the wrappers and threw it in the trash can. Then we heard Seth and Leo pounding on the door.

"Let us in!" said Leo.

Bre got up and open the door to let them in. They both looked around suspiciously.

"Can we help you?" Bre asked them both.

They shook their head. "We're just wondering if we can join you," Seth said.

"Hmm..."

"Oh just let them join us," I said to Bre.

Seth winked at me and walked in with Leo following behind. Seth lay on the floor while his twin brother sniffed around the room.

"Have you been eating something?" Leo asked, looking at all of us curiously.

"No," I lied.

"I'm bored..." Seth said, yawning.

"Go to sleep then" said Bre.

"Yeah... but I don't want to."

"Do you think... never mind..." Jane said, turning a shade of red.

Apparently, I was the only one who saw this. It made me want to question her more about whatever she was thinking. I let it go for the moment, but I would question her about it later. It was around dinner time

when both of my parents were home. It was seldom for both of them to be home at the same time. We all had dinner together that night.

It was around one in the morning when we all finally headed off to bed. Maybe this would be a good time to get Jane alone, or maybe not, I thought to myself as I went over what to say to her. I mull over it for another minute and went to check if Bre was willing to help me out. I knocked on her door and let myself in. The light was still on. She was sitting at her desk and looked up when I walked in.

"Can I help you?"

"Yeah actually... I do."

"How can I be a service to you?"

"Well... earlier today. Do you remember when Jane started to ask something and changed her mind at the last second?"

"Yeah... I do..."

"When she changed her mind, did you see her face turning red?"

Bre thought about it for a moment.

"Um... no... I missed that part. Do you think she's hiding something?" I nodded.

"Well... let's go see what she's up to."

This had worked out more than I have expected. She got up from her desk and started for the door. I followed behind as we quietly walked to Jane and Lily's room. Bre tapped softly on the door and opened it. Jane was still awake, but Lily was sound asleep. Bre crept towards Jane's bed and whispered in her ear, while I waited in the doorway. Jane slowly got out of her bed and came willingly, and we all three went back to Bre's room.

"I'm going to grab something from the kitchen for us to snack on," Bre said, heading back out the door.

"What do you want to talk to me about?" Jane asked me curiously.

"When you started to ask a question and changed your mind earlier today, I noticed your face going red."

"Oh," she breathed.

"That?" I nodded, smiling at her.

Bre came back in the room with three bags of chip and three cans of coke. She handed it out and seated herself on the floor. She looked at Jane, studying her.

"What were you keeping hidden from us earlier today?"

"Um... it's kind of freaky actually..."

"Okay, I'm interested now." I nodded in agreement with Bre.

"The other night... well three nights ago, I thought I saw someone in my room."

Bre and I just stared at each other, stunned.

"What? Should I have told you earlier about this or something?"

"No... just continue," Bre said to her.

"I keep thinking that someone was by my bed and... I swear I saw a shadow."

"Hmm..." I thought. I smiled at her.

"Bre and I have had the same incident in our rooms too."

"Really...!"

"Yep, pretty scary I have to say."

Bre and Jane both grinned at me. Jane sighed.

"I'm glad I got that out of the way." We all finished up eating and walked Jane back to her room. We said goodnight to her and went to bed ourselves.

I was awakened by the sun shining through my window. I blinked in the brightness of it. I looked at the time, it was ten o'clock. I can hear my brothers talking to each other loudly. I didn't want to get up yet so I just laid there with my eyes closed. I think I fell asleep again, because the next thing I knew, Lily was jumping on my bed.

"Wakie, wakie, wakie..."

"What is it that you want?" I asked her, still half asleep.

"It's eleven thirty. Wake up, wake up, wake up!"

"Okay, I will, just stop bouncing up and down."

She stopped and sat there quietly, waiting for me. I sighed and finally got up. Lily jumped off my bed.

"See you in the living room." She dashed out the door.

I got my bathroom necessity and went to take a shower. Maybe that would wake me up a bit more. It did help a little. I got out and quickly dressed for the day. My brothers and sisters were all already up, of course. I'm always the last to wake in my family. I headed out to where my siblings were. They were just hanging around the living room when I walked in. Bre smacked me.

"How was your sleep!?"

"It was good, actually."

"Cool."

"It looks like it's going to be another boring day today."

"Seth! Every day is always boring for you."

"Geez... Jane..., chill out I'm just saying."

I just sat quietly and pretended I wasn't in the room.

"Hey." Lily tapped me on the shoulder. I looked up.

"You're picking up the phone from now on, okay?"

"Um... Why?"

Lily sighed deeply. "Because every time I pick up the phone, there's no answer on the other end of the line and it's pissing the fuck out of me!"

"Okay then, I'll pick it up when it rings again."

She went back to the couch and curled up under the blanket and stayed there. Nothing good was on TV so we just kept it on the news channel. We didn't bother to watch it. Leo and Seth were building something with a deck of playing cards. Jane was just staring at the walls and Bre was... thinking about something, and Lily was looking at the ceiling. She was making shadows with her hands.

"Are you having fun there, Lily?"

"Yes I am... thanks for asking." I laughed.

I heard the key being inserted into the door.

"Mom's home!" Jane ran to open it.

"Hi kids."

"Hi." We all greeted her in unison.

"I'm only home for lunch. Did you cook or order anything?" She looked expectantly at me.

I shook my head. "Don't ask me, I just got up like an hour ago."

She looked at Bre then.

"I ordered two boxes of twenty chicken wings, and mashed potatoes from KFC."

"Oooo... where is it!?" Jane asked eagerly.

Bre got up and went to the kitchen. We all followed. She warmed up the wings and mashed potatoes and served us all. The food was good so I decided to go for seconds. Mom asked how our day was and reminded Bre and I to keep things in order. We reassured her that everything will be okay and not to worry. She said goodbye to us all and left for work. Bre and I cleaned up the kitchen, and I went to my room and she went to hers. I didn't feel like doing anything so I just sit there on my bed and technically lost in my

own thoughts. I felt a hand on my shoulder. I jumped and was now focused on everything around me. I turned around. Whoever was behind me suddenly disappeared. I had an idea who it was, but I was afraid to call out his name. I just let it go like always and forget about it. I heard the phone rang. I groaned and got up and went to answer the phone.

"Hello." There was no sound at the other end.

"Hello," I said again.

The phone went dead. I hung up the phone and cursed. I checked the caller ID. It was a private call.

"I told you," Lily said to me as I cleared some of the numbers.

"Hey... let's get dad's recording thingy and hook it up for evidence."

"Hmm... that's a good idea, Seth."

"Thanks Bre. See... I do have some brains in me." He stuck his tongue out at her.

He went to get the recording device as we wait anxiously for him to return. It took him nearly half an hour to return with the thing.

"What took you so long?"

"Hey I have to dig through some stuff to find it," he said to Jane.

Bre took the device from him and started hooking up the recorder to the phone.

"It's not illegal, is it?"

"No, I don't think so," I said to her.

She was done in like a minute. We waited for the next phone call to come. It wasn't long for the next one to ring. Bre answered it this time.

"Hello."

I could barely hear what the other end was saying, but I couldn't make it out.

"No, everything's okay over here." We looked at Bre, confusion showing.

"Okay, bye." She hung up the phone.

"It was one of the LAPD checking up on us."

"What!? Come again!?"

"Yeah Seth, I know what you're thinking. I have no idea why they would check up on us either."

"Anyways... play the damn tape."

She hit the play button. I didn't recognize the voice.

"Doesn't sound like any of dad's friends. Any of you know who it is?" Seth looked around at all of us. We all shook our head.

"Well then... leave that where it is, just in case he calls again."

"Sure thing," said Bre.

Seth sighed and slumped himself back on the couch. "Talk about some crazy motherfuckers trying to scare us or something."

"Shut up Seth! You might jinx it."

"Oops... sorry," he said, smirking at Jane. She slapped him.

"Ow...! I said I was sorry."

Jane got up and went to the kitchen. She came back with a piece of chicken wing in her hand.

"You still hungry, Jane?"

"No, it's too good to stop eating it."

"Don't you want some more, Seth?" She looked at him, her hand out like she's offering something to someone.

"No... I will get some later."

I was enjoying this little dialog between Seth and Jane. It was pretty pathetic to say the least. I flipped through the channels, just for something to do. Bre was talking to the others about her teachers. I was half listening. I finally turned off the TV after finding nothing good to watch. I went over trying to figure out who the voice on the tape could be. Nothing popped in my head. Was there something going on out in the world that I don't have a clue about? I would've heard of it by now if there was.

"I am bored. Want to do something?" Leo asked as he fidgeted with the zipper of his sweater.

"Do what?" I turned to look at him. He was thinking about it.

"I don't know."

Chapter Four Life or Death

We heard a knock on the door. I got up to check who it was. There was a cop outside our door. It made me suspicious. I hesitated for a second or two and slowly opened it. He flashed his badge at me. It made me feel a little more comfortable, but raised more questions in my head.

"Sorry to interrupt, but we're on an investigation of a murder case. Are your mom and dad home?"

A murder case, how come I didn't hear anything on the news about it?

"Um... No, but I will be glad to tell them that you stopped by."

He looked pass me in to the house. "Are you home alone?" I eyed him suspiciously. "It's routine police work. There's nothing to worry about."

"No, my brothers and sisters are home."

"Do you mind if I take a look around? I just want to make sure that everybody in the house is okay and alive."

I thought about it for a while. "Do you have identification?" I asked him.

He flashed his badge at me again. "I need to see some other identification besides a badge," I told him closing the door on him.

As I closed it, he held the door forcing it open. I backed away as he walked in, pointing a gun at me. I cringed.

"Don't make a sound or I will shoot you." I nodded. "Now... do what I say and no one will get hurt. Do you understand?"

"Yes," I whispered.

He grabbed me by the arm and led me to the living room. My brothers and sisters sat there in shock.

"Nobody move or make a sound! Or I will! Kill you." Jane was close to crying. "Now I want all of you to lie face down on the floor."

We did what we were told. I heard the tearing of duct tape and I knew right then that we were going to die. He bounded my hands together and I knew he was doing the same to my siblings. He came back to me and taped my nose and mouth shut. I took a deep breath before he covered my mouth. It would only last for a minute before I struggled for air.

"Where does your mom keep all her valuables?"

"I don't know," Jane said.

I heard her scream in pain as he asked the question again.

"I don't know," She said, starting to cry.

"I'm going to ask one more time! And I want the answer!" he shouted at her.

Before he could ask the question one last time, I heard a gagging sound. The sound wasn't coming from Jane, but it was coming from him. I was too afraid to look. I was struggling for air now. I heard him cough and gasping in pain.

"No... need to be harsh. It's the only fair way... to play. Don't you agree...?"

I heard him grunt in pain.

"A smart cop should know where everybody hides valuable things in the house. Am I right...?"

I heard another sound of pain. I heard the removing of duct tape and a gasp. I felt a cold hand swiftly removing mine. In a second it was off. I still didn't move from my position on the floor. I felt his cold hands again, this time removing the tape that bounded my hands together. Then, I heard all my siblings gasping and panting next to me. The cop impersonator, on the other hand was riving in pain. I knew who was delivering it, but I couldn't be sure until I see him with my own eyes.

"Since... this is your game... I would like permission to tell these six lovely... kids to get up."

A long minute pass with just the sound of heavy breathing.

"No answer? Hmm... I'm guessing the answer is yes?"

I waited anxiously for his verdict.

"Well then... you can all get up now."

I carefully sat up and looked around. The impersonator was on the ground in a fetal position. My brothers and sisters were all sitting up too. All of them had the look of shock and surprise on their face. The energy that emanating from Trynnadon... was murderous! I can feel it! And I can see it in his eyes!

Bre screamed and attempt to launch herself at the person on the floor. She almost reached him, but Trynnadon held her back. She thrashed in his arms, trying to break free. She was no match against a vampire. He let her scream and thrash 'til she ran out of energy. He stiffened. His jaws locked tight, and he definitely was not breathing. His head turned to the side. Ten minutes has passed until Bre finally calm herself down enough, to the point when she can keep her composures together. Trynnadon let go of her and in a flash, backed away ten feet from her. He turned to look at his victim on the floor who was still in a fetal position, but no longer in pain.

"What is your name... friend...?"

"I'm... Brad."

"Well Brad... I think we have a problem here..."

Brad looked up at him. "What do you mean?"

Trynnadon shot a friendly smile at him.

"I can't... let you go now... You might end up killing... someone. Not to mention... you were planning to take out this family here today. What do you have to say about that...?"

"I don't know what the hell you're talking about!"

"Really? I think you do," Trynnadon took a step closer to him.

"We can do this the hard way or the easy way, it's your choice... choose wisely."

He flashed another smile at him. Brad didn't say anything. He just stared at the wall.

"Hmm... I think this is going to be more difficult than I hoped for." Trynnadon said, backing away.

I didn't notice that he had a gun in his hand until I heard the bullets being removed. Brad finally looked up at Trynnadon, with a look of panic on his face. My siblings and I just sat there watching. I looked towards Brad, a helpless human who doesn't even have a clue who he's dealing with. Against a vampire who's a thousand times faster, stronger, and deadlier than he was! I froze when Trynnadon was suddenly right in front of me. All eyes followed his movement. He put his hand on my shoulder, trying to stop me from shaking. It helped a little. He handed me the bullets and the unloaded gun and told me to take it to my room. I did what I was told. I hid the gun in the drawer of my desk. I slowly walked back in to the living room. Seth was twitching nervously. I went to sit by him and the rest. The living room was connected to the rest of the house by walls and doors. Trynnadon closed the door that led to the front door, the hall, and the kitchen. There was no way out now. I heard Jane and Lily quietly squealing next to me. Everybody looked up at the vampire that was slowly walking towards his victim, who was curled up on the ground. He stopped just two feet away from him.

Brad straightened up from his position and moved away. Trynnadon smiled.

"Can I leave?" Brad asked, his voice shaking a little.

"Now what good would that do? I don't know, depends."

"Depends on what?"

"On how you choose to play the game..."

Brad stopped breathing for a second then composed himself.

"Why are you doing this to me!?" Brad nearly shouted.

"Actually... you're doing it to yourself... You chose to act on your own behalf... to be honest... you chose the wrong place and the wrong time. I'm sorry to ruin your plan..." Brad was sweating now. Trynnadon chuckled under his breath. "Like I said... you chose the wrong place and the wrong time to act out your clever little ideas..."

"I don't know what you're talking about!"

I didn't see what move Trynnadon had made. It was too fast, but Brad was in extreme pain now. He doubled over and was gasping like someone had cut out his airwave for a long amount of time. I froze in place when I heard a snarl. I had the feeling my siblings had the same reaction as I did.

"You know damn well! What I'm talking about!" Trynnadon said through clenched teeth.

He spit something at Brad. It didn't look like saliva. It was thicker. It hit him on the arm and now the living room was filled with Brad's shrieks of pain. Bre and I stared at Trynnadon questioningly. The vampire just smiled at us and turned back to his helpless victim on the floor. It went quiet all of a sudden. I looked at Brad to see if he was still in pain. It was apparent that he was. His mouth was wide open as if he was screaming and tears were streaming down his face. I couldn't see the thick substance on his arm, but when he touched the spot where the thick white thing was. He pulled his hand back and looked to be in more pain-although no sound escaped from him. Jane was clutching on to me as if I could make things better.

Trynnadon was in front of Brad in a second. I watched as he took his arm and sweep his tongue over the invisible substance. He backed away quickly and glared at him.

"What the fuck did you do to me!?" Brad shouted at him.

"No... need to shout..."

Seth and Lily came closer to Bre, Jane, and I. All of them threw their arms around me and Bre. Brad was panting on the floor, no longer screaming since the thick white thing was gone.

The phone rang and we all jumped, except for Trynnadon of course. Seth crawled his way to answer the phone. He hit the speaker button instead of picking up the phone.

"Hello."

"Is everything okay?" my mom was on the other end of the line.

Seth looked quickly at Trynnadon for the answer. He nodded.

Seth turned back to the phone. "Yeah, everything's fine."

"Where's your brother and sisters?"

"They're here." Seth said looking quickly at all of us.

"Can I speak to Jane for a minute?" Jane shook her head vigorously.

"She just got up to use the bathroom," he lied.

"Oh okay then, I just called to check up on all of you."

"Okay."

"I'll talk to you soon."

"Okay, bye mom."

"Bye." Seth pressed the speaker button again to end the call.

He came back to where we sat, holding our breath. We all breathed a sigh of relief then.

"Nice job." Trynnadon said.

Seth smiled at him. I didn't know that Brad was on his feet. I guess I was too worried about how the phone call would end.

"Where do you think you're going...?" Trynnadon asked him.

"I'm leaving!"

"Not so fast..." The vampire was already there, blocking his way to the front door. "Don't be stupid, but do you really think I'm just going to let you go? I'm not that type of person who just let things go and forget about it."

"Please... let me leave."

Trynnadon sniffed the air. "I'm sorry... I can't."

"Why not?"

"You will see..." "Alyssa?" I turned to look at him. "You, your brothers, and your sisters can leave now. Unless you want to stay and watch..."

I turned to Jane, Seth, Leo, Lily, and Bre. I stayed where I was. Only my two brothers, Jane, and Lily got

up and headed towards the door that led outside. Trynnadon glared at Brad.

"Don't you even dare try to escape. Our little fun hasn't begun yet."

He opened the door and they ran out without saying a word. The door closed just before Brad can make it halfway to the door.

"Awww... I'm sorry..." Trynnadon stepped forward towards him.

"Please, please, please let me go." He pleaded with the vampire.

He was begging him for mercy? This guy, Brad tried to kill me, my two brothers, and my three sisters, and he is begging for mercy? I couldn't help it I burst out laughing before I could stop myself. All three in the room all looked at me like I was crazy or something. I finally got a hold on myself and stopped laughing.

"Sorry." I said to Trynnadon.

He snickered and came to me. I froze. He stared at me for a long time and quietly said

"I thank you for the distraction."

He can tell that I was confused, but he didn't go on explaining it. He went to Brad who was standing against the wall, deep in his own thoughts. Breanna, who has been silent for a very long time stood up. She glared at Brad and started walking towards him, her right hand in her pocket. We all looked at her, waiting for whatever she was planning to do. Brad smiled, and this made her angrier. She ran at him with a pocket knife in her right hand now. Trynnadon growled and launched himself in between both of them.

"Give me the knife," he said clenching his teeth. Bre, on the other hand was holding the knife with all her strength and I could tell she wasn't going to give it up so easily. "Breanna." He said each syllable slowly.

I checked on Brad. He was frozen in shock and unable to move. I decided to try and talk her out of it.

"Bre? Just give him the knife. Don't make it harder on him than it is."

Trynnadon nodded approvingly at my words. It was a minute later when she finally handed over the knife and walked away cursing under her breath. Trynnadon closed the knife and turned to address his victim standing behind him.

"We're going to play a little game."

"What?"

"You'll like it. It's one of your expertises."

Brad looked confused now. "What game?" he asked nervously.

Trynnadon smiled at him. "It's called Life or Death." Brad gasps and backed away from him. "It's fairly simple to play. I promise it will be fun."

"No! I don't want to be a part of it."

"But you're already a part of it."

Brad moved further away from him. "Fuck you!" he shouted.

"So this is how you are going to play? Don't be so... difficult." Trynnadon laughed quietly.

Brad attempt to run for it again. The vampire was again there, blocking his way out.

"Open your eyes... Brad. You can't escape me... no matter how... hard you try."

"Just let me leave! I have to be home before my girlfriend!"

"Hmm... is that so... or are you just saying that?" Trynnadon eyed him suspiciously.

"I'm telling the truth!"

"Let's get this over with then."

I braced myself for whatever was coming. I heard a low growl. Brad was really panicking now. I glanced at Bre for a brief second. She was holding her breath, her body tensed up in fear. I turned back to see Trynnadon writing something on a paper, his hand moving at the speed of light. He got a pen from the cup.

"Here's how this work. I have a series of questions on this paper and you're going to answer it truthfully. Understand...?" Brad nodded.

"The results of your truthfulness will decide your fate... so I suggest that you answer all my questions honestly. Are my instructions clear?" Brad nodded and started on the paper that was now his lifeline.

We waited for him to finish. His hand was trembling and sweating as he wrote his answers down. It was a long eerie silence as we waited for him to finish. Trynnadon didn't take his focus off him throughout the whole process. I couldn't imagine what was going through Brad's mind at this moment. Brad finally put the pen down.

"Are you done?"

"Yes..."

I could hear a hint of hesitation in that yes. I bet Bre who was sitting next to me could also tell. Trynnadon held his hand out for the paper. He handed it to him. Bre and I waited nervously for the results. My stomach tingled so uncomfortably that I couldn't sit still. Trynnadon shot a quick glance my way. Bre put a hand on my arm. She squeezed so tightly, cutting off my circulation. I almost let out a little squeak. She let go of me and looked nervously up at Trynnadon.

"Um... how can you tell if he's telling the truth...?" He smiled at her, showing his teeth for the first time.

"I have certain abilities... I'll tell you about it later."

She nodded and stared at the bastard sitting about twenty feet from us. Trynnadon finally looked up from the paper. He walked slowly towards his victim. He crumbled up the paper and threw it across the room directly in to the trash can. He moved so fast! I couldn't see what he was doing. He was suddenly behind him. Brad spun around, but Trynnadon was already on top of him. Brad was shouting incoherence words. The vampire just laughed.

"Mmmm... you love to play the liar game, don't you?"

"Get the fuck off of me!" He did what he was told.

"Sorry..."

Brad got up and ran for the door. I heard a scream and blood was flowing from his nose and mouth. Bre and I both stared at Trynnadon. He was stiffed as ever. His eyes were closed. One hand covering his nose and mouth and pressing his fingers to his temple. He got a hold on himself and opened his eyes.

Those black eyes of his were burning with thirst. I cringed. Brad was still screaming. Trynnadon kicked him in the stomach. He doubled over and started gasping for air.

"Very nice..." Bre grabbed a stack of newspaper and threw it at Brad.

"Do you mind not ruining the carpet with your filthy blood!?"

Brad turned his head so that the blood was hitting the newspaper instead of the carpet. Trynnadon was behind him again.

"You left me no choice but to kill you." Brad screamed again.

"Control it!" Bre shouted to Trynnadon.

"I can't control it any longer. Sorry..."

He half crouched, ready to launch himself on his helpless prey. I watched as he slowly moved towards Brad. A low growl escaped him. Brad was frozen in place, unable to defend himself. A growl turned into a snarl. In a flash, Trynnadon had Brad in his arms.

"What are you going to do to me?" Trynnadon's fingers were gently pressing the side of Brad's throat.

"Don't worry... you won't feel any pain..."

I couldn't breathe. I watch in horror as Trynnadon bend his head to Brad's throat as if kissing him. My hands flew up to cover my ears as Brad's scream of agony filled the room. I couldn't take my eyes off of Brad. I watched his face slowly losing the color that was left of him. I heard the gurgling sound and the instant silence of his scream. It was over. I finally forced myself to take my eyes off of him. I looked around. Trynnadon was standing across the room, staring at me. His now crimson eyes were observing me.

"Holy fucking shit!" Bre half shrieked. "That was creepy! Talk about amazing and scary at the same time!" Bre shuddered. "Um..." She pointed towards Brad. Trynnadon followed her finger. "Um..." she said again.

"He'll come around... he won't remember a thing..."

"Are you going to move him out of here?"

Trynnadon nodded. "Clean him up. I can't go near him."

Bre nodded. "Alyssa, help me drag him." She giggled.

Chapter five Another Visitor

I helped her get Brad to the bathroom. I took off his clothes and with the help of Bre I carried him into the bathtub. We just wash the blood off of him. I took his clothes and wash it with soap. I saw Trynnadon in the mirror.

"Use bleach on his clothes. I can still smell it," he told me.

I ran into the kitchen. I got the bottle of bleach that was under the sink and ran back to the bathroom. It took me five to ten minutes to wash the smell of blood off his clothes or until Trynnadon was satisfied that he wouldn't kill him again while in the process of moving him.

"I'll take it from here." Bre and I both nodded. "Tell your brothers and sisters to come inside."

Bre went to get them while I went over what happened in my head. I didn't realize that Trynnadon had his hand on my shoulder. I slowly made my way into the living room, Trynnadon doing most of the work.

"Sit," he told me.

I sat on the couch, waiting for the others to come in. A minute later, I heard them entering. I felt a hard poke on my side. I turned to see who it was.

"Go get the gun." I stared at Trynnadon as he stared back. "I'm not giving it back to him."

"Oh."

"I'm keeping it." I nodded and got up.

I went to retrieve the gun from my locked drawer. I turned around and was in shock yet again.

"Give it to me." I handed the gun over to him. "Your mom is going to be home in five minutes." On that note, Trynnadon disappeared.

My head spun wildly. I walked back to where my brothers and sisters were. Bre was updating them on

what happened. I was glad that I wasn't a part of it, because I had a million things going through my mind at this moment.

"Where's Trynnadon?" Seth asked me. I shook my head.

"I don't know."

"Hey kids!" We all jumped.

"Hi mom!" We all yelled back.

"Look normal!" Bre hissed at me.

My mom came in a second later.

"How are things?"

Jane smiled up at her. "It was great!" She said enthusiastically.

"Good... What did you do?"

"I played baseball with Lily and the boys."

"Oh... that's good. What did you do Alyssa?" She turned to face me.

I scrambled for words. "I didn't do anything much, just watched some TV and relaxing."

My parents couldn't know the truth that my siblings and I were keeping something hidden from them. We were getting good at that.

"I'm glad that you all had a wonderful day," she winked at us. She left without saying another word.

"Close call," Bre whispered, loud for the rest of us to hear.

"Man, I wish I stayed to watch the whole showdown," Seth said.

"Well, I can say that it was quite interesting," I said.

All of us nearly shriek as the vampire appeared in the room all of the sudden.

"I didn't mean to scare you all out of your wits. Maybe I should announce my entrance next time." He winked.

He went to sit on the couch opposite of Jane. She winced. He looked down at her.

"Am I that scary?"

"Um... yes."

He smiled. "Sorry about last time."

"That's, okay," she said in a whisper.

He leaned in to her. "Hmm... you smell good."

"As in?"

"As in sweet."

She looked at him nervously.

"Do you really have fangs?" We all looked at her.

"Yes matter of fact I do."

"Can we see it!?" Leo asked.

He opened his mouth to reveal white teeth. We watched as he extended two sharp fangs from out of nowhere. We all gasped. He closed his mouth and leaned back, staring at us. We heard the bathroom door opened. Trynnadon was gone in a flash.

"Don't stay up too late," she called to us.

"Okay, we won't," Lily said, loud enough for my mom to hear.

Her bedroom door closed and we all relaxed our posture. I looked back to where he was sitting. He was there, smiling.

"How the hell do you do that?" Jane asked him.

"Do what?"

"Disappearing like that."

"It's in my nature," he said.

"What else can you do?" Bre asked eagerly.

"I suppose you're not allergic to sunlight?"

"No I am not."

"Does it do anything to you?"

"No."

"What about all the other stuff vampires get killed from?"

He laughed. "I don't sleep in coffins, I don't burn in the sunlight, I'm not allergic to garlic, stakes can't kill me, I don't turn into a bat, and silver can't hurt me."

I don't know what my brothers and sisters were thinking, but I was amazed.

"Is somebody willing to donate their blood?"

"Huh?" Seth wielded around to stare at Trynnadon.

He was smiling. I looked at him too. His eyes were black.

"Why do your eyes change colors?" I asked him.

"Because I am thirsty."

"Go figures!" said Bre.

"When you're not, your eye turns red."

"Smart girl, but I am always thirsty. Red just means that I can control my thirst without trying too hard."

"Is it the blood that makes it red?"

"Yes."

He scanned the room, his nose in the air.

"Sniffing for something?" Lily asked.

The vampire just looked at her. He turned to look at Jane. She cringed away from him.

"Can I give you a kiss?"

Jane looked at him, panic on her face. We all heard him growl. Before we could scream or do anything, the room went calm. Trynnadon was still staring at Jane. She sank lower and lower into the sofa.

"You won't hurt me."

My eyes were fixed on both of them. Trynnadon, looking ready to spring on my sister at any moment, and Jane, scared stiff, looked at him pleadingly. Trynnadon stared hungrily back at her. Jane took a deep breath and sat up. Like somebody shocking her out of her seat, she sprang to the door. Before she could make it out of the room, Trynnadon grabbed her upper arm, pulling her back, and closing the door. She squealed and tried to break free of his grip.

"Shhh... look at me." He told her.

She didn't meet his eyes, in fear of what he would do to her. He put his hand under her chin, forcing her to look at him. She was blue.

"Breathe," He told her.

She let out a gush of air, and the vampire flew off of her. We all looked at him, horrified. He was trembling. His back was to us so we couldn't make out his expressions, but I could clearly tell that he was stiffed, his body arching. I looked back at Jane. She was standing where Trynnadon had left her, frozen in place. I looked towards my other siblings. They were also frozen in place. Bre met my eyes and looked away quickly. All of the sudden, another person appeared out of thin air. We were all about to scream, but my tongue rolled inward and back out in a second. Seth looked at me nervously. I shook my head. We all looked at the new comer. He was an inch taller than Trynnadon. His blond hair flatten down with jell. His skin was pale, his eyes were bright red. He also wore black clothe and the same blue bracelet. He put his hand on his shoulder.

"Hold it together." His voice was whispery and raspy.

Trynnadon launched for Jane. The new comer launched at Trynnadon, holding him down. They both struggled violently. Trynnadon quietly snarled at him.

"Calm yourself. Control it."

The vampire growled menacingly at his captor, trying to break free. It was an even fight. The vampire Trynnadon was seething and hissing. The new comer finally looked up.

"Can you open the window!?" he asked.

Leo got up and went to the window and quietly opened it. The cool air wafted in to the room. Leo ran back to the couch, nearly knocking it over. He carried Trynnadon to the window. He whirl his head to the cool air and took a deep breath. Jane was still where she was, her eyes darting around the room. She finally held her gaze at the two vampires at the window.

"Stay there!" he said firmly to Trynnadon. He nodded.

The new comer let go of him and backed away from the window. This time, he did a quick scan of the room, taking in the scene.

He walked over to Jane and took her hand. He led her back to the couch.

"Sit, girl."

She sat and curled into a ball. Seth and Leo put their arms around her.

"I'm sorry," he said to us all.

"Let me introduce myself. My name is Callan, and you all are...?"

He looked at us expectantly. The silencing spell finally lifted, and we took turns introducing ourselves.

"Please to meet all of you," he smiled.

He looked back at the other vampire. He was still breathing in the fresh air from the window.

"I would like to invite you all over to our place," said Callan.

My siblings and I all looked at each other.

"Um... how are we going to ask our parents for permission?" Lily asked him.

Callan looked thoughtful for a minute.

"Are they going to be home tomorrow? Trynnadon here tells me that they're barely ever home."

"Well, yeah, he's right, but... how are we going to explain to them where we've been?" I asked.

"Hmm..."

Trynnadon finally turned his head from the opened window.

"I could probably convince them that you're all going on a trip with us," he looked at us all menacingly.

"You know how Theresa is. She's up for anything." He swiftly turned his head back towards the window. Leo looked at me.

"He probably could," I said to them.

"She probably trusts Trynnadon enough to let us go."

"Yeah, she doesn't know what she's in for," said Bre. Callan and Trynnadon both laugh.

"Anybody in for it?" Callan asked. We all nodded.

"Wonderful, I'll come up with an excuse for Trynnadon to give to them, since he can't think clearly right now.

"Sweet," Seth said. Callan gave Seth a warm smile and went to stand by the other vampire.

Callan looked at us all curiously.

"Is anyone willing to give blood?" Jane shook her head. "Anybody but Jane?"

"Not me," I said. "He already drained me twice."

"Okay then..."

He looked at Lily, Bre, and the twins.

"Not me," Lily said.

Bre took a deep breath.

"Okay, I'll do it-only if he doesn't kill me."

"He won't."

Callan gestured to Bre to get up and go to the window.

"Um..."

"Go to the window. It's better this way-mostly because he can control it, and he won't hurt you as bad."

"Um... okay."

"Is there a certain place you comfortable with?" Callan asked her.

"Um... well, not my neck. That's my weakest spot."

Bre moved slowly and deliberately to the window. She was at last next to him. He slowly turned his head to her. She took a step back from him. He followed her movement. He put his hand on her arm. He pulled her closer to him. He stared deeply into her eyes.

"Anywhere in particular...?" he whispered.

"Um... my arm...?" Bre said, her voice shaking.

"I've noticed that you are left-handed. Is that your strong arm?" She nodded.

Callan was behind her. Trynnadon put his arms around her, holding her in place.

"Don't hyperventilate on me," he said.

He touched her arm and firmly held it with his right-hand. Bre wasn't looking at Trynnadon. She faced the other way, facing us. He opened his mouth, his fangs was showing. He growl.

"He wants your wrists," Callan told her.

"Um... okay, that's fine."

Bre started to breathe heavily. I watched as Trynnadon bend his head to her wrist, his fangs grazing her arm. He slowly sank his fangs into her flesh. Bre was gridding her teeth and groaning, rapidly breathing in and out, and her eyes were shut tight. Her body tensed as the pain got worse. Callan took her free hand. She squeezed it with all her strength, trying to ease the pain. Trynnadon was drinking thirstily. Bre was getting weaker. Her hand slowly lost its grip on Callan. I could see the life draining away from her.

"Stop," Callan said.

"Stop, stop, stop, Trynnadon stop, that's enough!"

Trynnadon growled and slowly withdrew his fangs.

"Let go of her," he said. "Don't, she needs to walk back and sit down. She can't do that when she's unconscious." Trynnadon growled a second time. "Let go of her."

With tremendous effort, he finally let go. Bre staggered her way back to where we were.

"You all need some sleep," Callan said. "Go to bed. I'll come up with ideas for Trynnadon while you all are sleeping."

We all slowly got up. Seth and Leo were supporting Bre, since she was still low on energy. We waved good-bye to both vampires and headed to our room.

Chapter Six The Truth At Last

I had the feeling that someone was looming over me. My eyes slowly opened. Callan was standing in the darkest corner of my room, staring at me. He stepped out and came over to my bed.

"Good morning-didn't mean to wake you."

"No, that's okay."

"Trynnadon spoke to your parents about the idea I gave him. It worked out well." I smiled at Callan. He smiled back.

"Aren't you afraid of us?"

"Yeah... only when you're in your bloodlust stage." He flashed an evil smile at me. I cringed away.

"You and Jane have the sweetest blood-never thought I come across one."

"Um... how do you know mine and Jane's are sweet?" Callan leaned into me.

"I can smell it. It's smells delicious, mouth watering." He licked his lips. I saw that his fangs were out. He pulled me closer to him.

"No."

"Just a little taste?"

"No."

"Please?"

"No."

I noticed that he wasn't breathing. I tried to push him away from me, failing miserably. He slowly let air out and let me go. I moved away from him.

"Do you always feed on humans?"

"I prefer humans over animals." He turned to look at me. His eyes were dark red.

"Is there a difference in taste?" I had no clue where my questions were coming from.

"Yes." I waited for him to continue.

"Human blood has more flavors to it and animal blood taste bland." He made a sour face.

"Let's go out into the living room."

"Can I wash up first?" Callan nodded.

"See you there."

"Okay."

I slowly got ready. I took a nice long hot shower to clear my head. I turned off the shower after it ran out of hot water and got out. I glanced towards the living room, Jane and Bre were up. I headed for my room. I

pulled out a pair of black jeans and a blue t-shirt and slowly dressed. I'm not the type of girl that wears makeup or stuff like that, or doing my hair so I just put a slab of lotion on my face and arms and combed through my hair, same as every day. I let my hair loose and went to the living room.

"Somebody smells good," Jane said to me as I entered.

"Ah... thanks."

"No problem!"

"Is anybody making breakfast?"

"I am," Bre said from the kitchen.

"Where did Callan and Trynnadon go?"

"They went hunting," Jane said to me.

"Oh okay."

"They said they'd be back in half an hour or something."

"Okay, we'll just hang."

I went to sit next to her. The smell of bacon and sausage permeated the air.

"Breakfast's ready," Bre called from the kitchen.

Jane and I got up and went eagerly.

"I'll wake up the others."

Bre dashed out the kitchen. Jane and I dug in hungrily. Bre entered with the others and they all began devouring the food.

"Geesh!-calm down people!" We all giggled and finished up the rest.

After breakfast was over, Jane and Lily cleaned up the place. Bre and I scanned the area, just making sure no vampires snuck up on us.

"Looking for someone?" Bre and I both screamed.

I turned around to find Trynnadon behind us, grinning.

"Sorry." Bre and I stood there a minute longer, gathering our thoughts.

"Um... it's okay," said Bre.

I went to sit down, Bre and Trynnadon following behind.

"When are we leaving?" Bre asked him.

"When everybody is ready, we'll go." Bre and I both nodded.

Just then, the boys, Lily, and Jane came in.

"How are we going to your place?" Seth asked him.

"Driving? Of course, I'm not going to make you run all the way there now would I?"

"No."

Trynnadon got up and headed for the front door. We followed behind and got in the car.

"Nice car," said Leo.

Trynnadon smiled. "It's not really mine. I stole it." We all gaped at him.

"I hope you don't mind...?"

"Um... No we don't mind it at all," said Bre.

"Buckle up good."

We settled ourselves comfortably in the seat. Trynnadon looked at all of us.

"Do you all like roller coasters?" We all nodded.

"Good, pretend you're riding one." Bre looked at him questioningly. "I drive a hundred miles per hour."

"Oh."

Trynnadon put the car in gear and sped out the driveway. The trees flew passed us as we looked through the window. Before we knew it, the car was slowing down. He turned into the driveway and parked the car. The house was all white on the outside. I wonder what it looked like on the inside. Trynnadon opened the door and we did the same. We followed him up the porch steps and stopped at the door. He turned around. All of the sudden everything went calm. He turned back to unlock the door. Too fast for human eyes to catch he punched in some numbers on the lock pad and I heard a click. He opened the door and went in. He held the door open for us and we all went inside. The door closed behind us. I looked around curiously, taking everything in. In front of us were stairs leading up to somewhere. To the right, the door led to what looked like a living room, same on the left. Trynnadon led us through the

door on the right and stopped. My brothers and sisters and I looked around. There was nothing much to see. The room was bare except for one couch on the right and a television set on the other side of the room, on the ceiling hung the lights.

"Feel free to explore," said Trynnadon.

"Who's leading?" asked Bre.

"I am!" Jane said eagerly.

We followed Jane forward to another door. She opened it and we went in. It was a bathroom, the cleanness one I've ever seen. On the left was the sink and in front of it was a mirror. To the right was a toilet.

"Wow... nice bathroom," Lily said. We all agreed with her.

The floor and walls were white. On the walls were a couple of hand towels. We exited the bathroom and proceeded back to where we were. We went through the door on the left and stop to look around. To the right are another couch and a table. In front of us was another television set.

"Which way you want to go first?" Jane asked.

"Let's turn right and see the kitchen," said Seth.

We made our way to the kitchen. In front of us was a sink and windows that looked out into the bright morning. On the left of the counter was a refrigerator and on the right are the trash can and a cabinet. On the left side of the kitchen was the stove. We turned right and walked over to the other side. On this side are the water fountain and an eating area. We left the kitchen and turned right and right again and went downstairs. Jane opened the door to the left. It was another bathroom. She opened another door to the left. We looked inside. It looked like a hangout area and a computer room combined, since there was computer in it. On the right was an open area, looked like another living room, but nothing was in here. We kept exploring the big house and at last we decided to check the black door. Trynnadon flashed an evil grin at us.

"What?" Leo asked him.

"What's in there?" He shook his head. He wasn't going to answer.

"Let's explore that room later," said Trynnadon.

He led us upstairs and through a door.

"Wait here. I'm going to put down some chairs and table."

"Okay," said Seth.

We watched as Trynnadon open another door across the room. A minute later he came out and led us in to the room. Nothing was in here. Just a table in the center of the room with a telephone sitting on it and the room were all white, dimly lit.

"The room you just came in from is called the safe room," said Trynnadon.

My siblings and I all looked at each other.

"The room we're in now is the conference room," he said, smiling.

"I'm thinking you all have questions for me?" We all nodded.

Just then, the door opened. There, stood five people. Trynnadon turned to them.

"Come in."

They all came in and took a seat.

"Let me introduce these people to you. This is James, Eric, Callan, Abby, and Kallie," he said, pointing at each of them.

"Nice to meet you all," I said.

We all went around and introduce ourselves to the vampires. Don't need to give descriptions on the new vampires-mostly because they look the same-accept the girls, of course. I noticed that the girls weren't vampires-maybe they were, but I didn't have the nerves to ask.

"So... Now that we've all met each other, let's get this Q and A session going," said Trynnadon.

"Are you all vampires?" Jane asked.

"No, Kallie and Abby are human," said Callan.

"What's behind the black door!?" Seth asked.

The four vampires smiled at each other-having a silent communication.

"Um... you'll find out later-just chill," Callan said, smiling at him.

The so call Q and A sessions went on for another half an hour until Lily asked the question of the day.

"We have the abilities to read minds, manipulate emotions, silencing, basic vampire stuff which I presume you all know what that is, and playing with your mind while you're sleeping," said Trynnadon. He looked at me, smiling.

"I was the one that made your dreams dark and hazy, and I wanted you to feel the pain," he said to me. "I hope you don't mind?"

"Uh..." I didn't know what to say.

"Next time, I'll make it colorful and happy." He laughed. "That's if I feel like it."

James eyed him suspiciously.

"Sorry."

"He is the meanest vampire you'll ever come across," said Kallie.

"Shhh! You're ruining everything," said Trynnadon.

Kallie snickered. "Hey, they have the right to know, don't they?" She winked at us.

Without any sudden hint, James got out of his seat. He grabbed Jane. In a flash, Eric and Callan pulled her away before his fangs touched her throat.

"James? No need to be hasty here," said Callan.

He growled. "I. Want. Her." James bared his fangs at her. "She's mouth watering."

Jane squealed and backed away towards the door. James lunged for her. She screamed. Eric had him in a chokehold and forced him down on the floor.

"Take him outside," said Trynnadon.

It took Eric, Callan, and Kallie to drag him out the room.

"Sorry about that. He gets a little out of hand when he smells fresh blood, especially a lovely sweet one."

"But how can you handle it?" Seth asked him.

"Mmmm... I couldn't." He shot a glance at me. "Did your older sister ever tell you that I drained her

twice?" Seth shook his head. "Well... it was very tasty."

Chills ran up and down my spine, I shivered.

He looked at me then. "You weren't crazy or going insane when you thought someone was in the room."

"It was you all along that did all that!?" Bre asked, stunned.

"Yes. I followed you home on that very same day we met," he said to me.

"You're a fast runner."

"Uh... so it was you that tapped my window?"

He smiled at me. "Yes. I was hoping you would open it and call out, but you didn't. So, I came up with another plan to get myself in, and it worked very well-better than I planned it to be."

I just sat there, slowly absorbing each and every word.

"Wow..."

"I was picking every brain to put my plan to action."

For the first time throughout the conversation, Abby shifted slightly in her chair. Something about Trynnadon was making her uncomfortable. Hell, the whole room was feeling a bit uneasy. Trynnadon laughed and slowly everything went calm. Abby turned to look at him. I guessed that she was silently asking him a question, because a minute later Trynnadon got up and open the door.

"Are you guys hungry?" she asked.

"Yeah," said Jane.

We all got up and went downstairs to the kitchen. Kallie was getting things ready when we entered.

"Have a seat, food will be ready in just a minute," she said.

We quietly made small talks as we ate steak, mashed potatoes, and green beans.

"James is in the isolation room," Trynnadon said to Kallie and Abby. We looked up at him, confused.

"The isolation room is the only room you're not going to enter," he said to us.

"That room is for vampires only," said Abby. "It's the only room with no human sent lingering in the air."

"Oh," I said. "Can't he still come out though?" I asked.

"No, it can't be opened from the inside."

"Hmm... interesting," said Bre.

"I have another question." Bre winked at Trynnadon.

"Hmm... and what would that question be?"

"What does it feel like when you're thirsty?"

"Well... my throat burns, my veins tingle with tensions to kill, can't think clearly, I see red, and a craving sensation."

"Is that why you stiffen up when you're trying to control it?"

"Yes."

I felt a presence behind me so I turned around. Callan was a foot away looking at me.

"Is somebody getting a little hungry here?" Trynnadon asked him.

Callan didn't answer. He just moved closer to me.

"Uh... stay far, far away from me, mister,"

I said to him. I looked at Trynnadon for help. "Is there something I can hurt him with?"

"No, sorry."

I got out of my chair and moved quickly away from the advancing vampire.

"He won't hurt you. Come back and finish eating," said Trynnadon.

"Walk slowly though."

I slowly went back to the table. I was grateful that Callan didn't propel himself on me. We finished eating in silence, Callan staring hungrily at me all the while. Bre poked me in the ribs. I turned my head to look at her. She just shook her head. I nodded. I knew what she was trying to tell me. Kallie cleared the table as we all got up and went to the living room. I heard a sigh and before I can turn around to see who it was, I was knocked forward. I reached my hand to hit whoever it was on me, but my arms were twisted

in a firm grip. The hands were cool so it had to be one of the blood suckers. I tried to turn my head to see who it was, but I couldn't do to my position on the floor.

"It's Callan," said Jane.

I growl and relaxed. I couldn't fight anymore. Callan let go of my arms and I attempted to turn around. I guessed he was reading my mind, because he eased himself off of me, enough room for me to face him. I looked around the room. My siblings were watching this. I finally looked at Callan. His face was unreadable, but his eyes were something else.

"Why can't you pick Jane instead?" I asked, trying to keep my voice steady.

He didn't answer. He put his full weight on me now. I instinctively put my hands out in front of me. He leaned in until his chest was touching it. He smiled and leaned closer. My arms were getting weaker by the second. His hands pulled my resisting arms away, with no effort on his part. I growled at him. He growled back. His, was more scary and dangerous. I cringed.

"You can make a good vampire, you know that?" he said, in his danger tone.

I didn't say anything. He parted his mouth. His sharp fangs were out. My breathing quickened and I started to sweat.

"Would you like me to calm your nerves?" I couldn't say anything. "Let me help you out," he said. Just then, a wave of calmness washed over me. "Better?"

"Uh... yeah."

I closed my eyes so I didn't have to see it. I felt his lips on my throat. I couldn't help it.

"No!" I screamed.

My eyes flew open. I tried to get him off, but of course, it was no use. He laughed, completely enjoying this moment.

"Do I have to silence you too?"

"Uh"

Before I can get more out, my tongue rolled inward and out, cutting off my speech. I looked around the

room. I realized that I was alone with him. I cursed silently. The mind reader, missing nothing, laughed.

"They just wanted to give us some... privacy," he said.

I didn't realize that I was holding my breath until I exhaled. Okay, wrong move. Callan's fangs punctured my neck and a trickle of blood was dripping down the side. He stopped it before it could hit the carpet. No shit! It hurt like a bitch! He would've kept on biting if my free hand didn't distract him. He snarled and secured every part of me in place. I turned my head to the side. Callan growled and turned my head to face him again. As helpless as I was, I couldn't do anything. He licked the blood off my neck. I tensed up. He sank his fangs into me with so much force that I think my heart skipped a beat. The pain was unbearable. I screamed and screamed, but no sound escaped my throat. Oh my fucking god! My whole body seems to be on fire. What the hell! I can feel him drinking thirstily, but the pain was getting worse. Oh shit! Oh shit! What the fuck was he doing to me? I couldn't breathe, and before I knew it, my vision blurred, and I was slowly slipping away.

Voices? I can hear voices around me, but from whom? I was half conscious and in an agonizing pain-felt like I've been submerged in boiling water. I finally opened my eyes. I couldn't make a sound or move. Eric and Trynnadon were staring down at me.

"Suck the venom out?" Eric asked.

"You," said Trynnadon.

"Fine."

Eric bent down to pick me up off the floor. He led me to the couch and held me to him. I can see all this going on. I was screaming inside my head. I didn't care what he did. I just want that venom out of me and fast. He bent his head to my neck and bit. It was a thousand times worse. I was paralyzed, I couldn't scream out loud to tell him to stop. It felt like forever, but gradually the pain holding me hostage slowly, very slowly subsided. A minute longer, the pain was gone. Eric licked my neck and let me go. I weakly got a hold of myself enough to sit on the couch and survey my surroundings. Okay... that was... creepy, I told myself. I was weak and tired. I leaned back on

the couch and fell into a deep sleep. I felt a slight pressure in my head. My eyes slowly opened.

"Wake up sleepy head," Trynnadon said with a wry smile.

"Be sure to kill Callan for me," I said to him.

"I'll be happy to."

I wonder what time it was. I check my watch. It was two thirty-five in the afternoon.

"Where are the others?"

"Your brothers and sisters?" I nodded. "They're out on the front porch. Would you like to join them?"

"Sure."

He helped me up and led me to the door. I opened it and step out. I went to one of the unoccupied chair and sat down. Looking around, I noticed that my siblings were staring at me.

"What?"

Leo spoke up first. "How do you feel?"

I thought about it for a second. "Fine, a few hours sleep helped a bunch."

"Good to hear."

Chapter Seven Cracking the Code

"So... what were you guys talking about while I was regenerating?"

"Nothing really," said Jane. "We were just waiting for you to wake up. Anyhow, want to play a guessing game?"

"Uh, why?"

"Because I got a weird message on my voicemail," said Seth.

"Oh really?"

"For real, here listen to it." Seth threw his cell phone at me. I caught it before it hit the ground. I flipped it open and hit the one button, holding it down until the voicemail screen popped up. I put the phone to my ear and listen to the only saved message. All I heard was a crackle of noise and whispering in the background. I couldn't make out what the person was

saying. I shut the phone off and threw it back to Seth. "See? Now do you believe me?"

"I sure do. Could it be one of your friends?"

"No, it couldn't be. I would recognize their voices."

"Oh just lovely, another fucker to fuck with," Jane said under her breath.

Just then the door opened and Eric stepped out.

"Want anything to eat or drink before I take you guys home?"

"You got any cookies?"

"Jane, you nearly ate the whole box of cookies the night before," said Bre.

"But... -"

"I'll give you some sweetheart," said Eric.

"Don't mind this mean sister of yours." He smiled at Bre and walked back inside.

A minute later, he came back out and handed Jane a couple of cookies.

"Do not kill yourself while eating that," he said to her.

She laughed and stuffed a cookie in her mouth. "I won't."

Eric stared at her a minute longer and shook his head.

"I'll give you all five minutes. Don't want Theresa to think that we're kidnapping you," he smiled. "Although I don't mind keeping you guys around," he said, licking his lips. He turned and went back inside, closing the door behind him.

"Yeah, hurry up and eat your cookies so we can get out of here," said Lily.

"Oooo... are you scared...?"

"Shut up Bre." She smiled at her sister and snickered.

"Okay, whatever you say, little sister."

"Oh look, it's sunny outside," said Jane.

"And your point is?" I asked her curiously. She just shook her head at me. I glanced up at the clock up on the wall. "You got a minute to finish your cookie,

Jane." She nodded and shoved the rest of the cookie in her mouth, chewing it slowly.

We heard the door slowly opened and Eric stood in the doorway. Jane swallowed and nearly choked. He came outside and looked around. He looked towards Jane with a questioning look.

"Um... yeah, I'm done."

We all got up and went to the door.

"It was a pleasure meeting you all," said Eric.

"We shall meet again."

"Um... yeah," said Seth.

We all nodded in agreement. We got in the car and drove off. The drive home was absolutely silent. I guess Eric didn't feel like speeding, otherwise we would've been home in a minute.

My mom was waiting for us when we got home. She greeted us and turned to Eric.

"Hello, I'm Theresa," she said, holding her hand out.

"Hi, I'm Eric. It's nice to meet you," he said shaking her hand.

"Thank you for bringing them home safely."

"Not a problem. They were no trouble at all."

I was standing in the corner, listening to their conversation and was trying not to be seen. I was invisible to my mom, but Eric didn't miss a thing. I cursed myself and ran to the kitchen. I couldn't hear them very well from here, but it was better than having Eric making me feel tingly inside. Seconds later, I heard the door closing. I went to the living room and plop myself down as my mom came in.

"So... how was it?" she asked eagerly.

"It was okay," I said trying to hide the unpleasant things that happened to me earlier. I didn't want to go into details at the moment so I had to elaborate. "We -"

"We had lots of food," said Jane.

"Eric gave me some cookies."

"Oh, that was nice of him."

"Yeah and we went on a tour of the house. It was huge!"

Seth looked at Jane and sigh. "It wasn't that huge, but it was interesting though." He looked towards me for approval.

I nodded my head. "Jane is just exaggerating," I said.

"Well, dinner will be ready in an hour. Go and soak up some sun. Time will fly faster that way."

I was just glad she didn't ask any more questions. I followed Bre outside and she turned to face me.

"Think mom will let us walk to Seven-eleven to buy something?"

"What you want to buy from there?"

"I just want to buy a drink."

"Go ask her."

She went to ask permission as I waited outside for her. Seth and Leo were setting up something. I couldn't tell what it was. Jane and Lily were just gossiping about something. I didn't bother to join in. Bre came out and gave the thumbs up sign and we

were off before Jane, Lily, and the twins noticed. When we got to our destination, she asked if I wanted anything. I shook my head and said,

"Nothing for me, but thanks anyways."

We went inside the store and Bre headed for the cooler and got herself a bottle of coke. She paid for her drink and we left the store.

"Where did you go?" Seth asked us as we walked up the driveway

"Um, we went for a walk," said Bre.

"What's in the bag?"

"Nothing."

"You're such a liar. C'mon spill it."

"It's my coke, want some?"

"You bastard! You went to Seven-eleven without me! God! Do I hate you!"

"No coke for you then."

"Please?"

"Let's go inside first."

Seth, Bre, and I went back inside. I went to my room as Bre and Seth headed to the kitchen. I close the door and sat down on my bed. I had to clear my head. Wow strange things have been happening lately, I thought to myself. I nearly died of suffocation and blood lost today. I got up and paced my room. What's up with that strange message Seth got earlier. My head was spinning wildly. I don't know what to pay attention to in the first place. Fucking jackass trying to mess with us or something, I said out loud to no one in particular. I wanted to listen to that message again so I can try to make out who the fuck was doing all this shit. I composed myself and walked out of my room as I heard my mom calling us to dinner.

I noticed that I was the last to enter the kitchen. We all settled down to eat as the front door opened. My dad walked in and greeted us all and grabbed himself a plate of food. Fifteen minutes later, the table was cleared and everybody went to their own spaces.

"Wait," I whispered to Seth.

"What?"

"Come to my room for a second."

"Okay."

Bre noticed the hush exchange between Seth and me. She followed us to my room and sat on my desk. Seth closed the door behind him and sat down on the floor.

"Does she need to be here?" he pointed at Bre.

"I can be in here if I want to," she said.

"Anyways," I said.

"Can I have your cell just for tonight?"

"My cell? Why?"

"I want to try to figure out the message you got."

"Okay, let me know if you pick something up."

"I surely will."

He took the phone out of his pocket and handed it over to me.

"Anything else?"

"No that is all." He got up and exited my room.

"I guess he's still pissed at me about the coke," Bre said, smiling at me.

"He probably is." I flipped open the phone and went to his voicemail. I listened carefully to the message, but still didn't pick up anything from it. I threw the phone to Bre. "See if you can get anything from it." She nodded and put the phone to her ear.

I watched as she repeatedly listened to the message over and over again.

"Got anything yet?"

She put one finger up, silencing me. She shut the phone off and turned to face me.

"I think I got it, but I'm not a hundred percent sure."

"Okay, give it your best shot."

"I think the person wants five million dollars."

"Five what?"

"I know," she said as she opened the phone again.

"Let me listen to it one more time."

I nodded at her to proceed.

"Yep, five million."

"How the fuck did you figure this out?"

"Oh, it's my nature to crack difficult, jumbled up shit."

"You're not shitting with me, are you?"

She made a serious face at me.

"I bet my white ass on it."

"Wow, you really would? Will you bet your life on it?"

"Damn right I will."

"You want to tell mom and dad about it?" I asked.

"No not yet, let's see if they call back."

"Well, we better get to bed before mom checks up on us."

Bre got up and went to her room and I got in my bed. I put Seth's phone on the nightstand, so I would remember to return it to him the next day.

## Chapter Eight A desperate Favor

I felt somebody shaking me awake. I opened my eyes to find Leo looking at me nervously.

"What is it?"

"I can't find Seth or Bre anywhere."

"Maybe Bre took Seth to buy something."

"Yeah, but Seth always tell me where he's going."

"So you woke up and check every room and noticed that Seth and Bre weren't around?"

"Yeah and I checked outside as well."

"Wait a few minutes and see if they come home or not."

"Okay, are you getting up?"

"Let me sleep in a bit more. Make yourself something easy to snack on, if you're hungry."

Without another word, he left my room, and I fell right back asleep. When I woke up for the second time, the sun was up. I check the time. It was two thirty-five. I stretched and got up. I went out to the

living room. I was hoping to find my brothers and sisters, but none of them was here. I check all over the house and finally found them outside. Bre and Seth were not there. I joined them as they turn to look at me.

"No sight of Bre or Seth yet," said Lily.

It's not like them to be gone for this long, so that worries me quite a bit, not to mention what my parents would say in all this.

"We tried to reach them, but no answer from either of them."

"Well, I have Seth's cell," I told her.

"So he wouldn't be able to answer it, but Bre on the other hand... should be able to. Was her phone off?"

She shook her head. "No it was on."

"So not like her," said Jane.

We sat in silence for a long time, watching and listening for them to pop out of nowhere, and hope that this would all just be a game. Unfortunately, that was not the case. With nothing to do, we all slowly

went back inside and waited for mom or dad to get home. The long hours dragged on with no sight of Seth or Bre.

At seven thirty, my mom finally walked through the door. Seeing our unhappy faces, she knew something was wrong, terribly wrong.

"What's the matter? Is everything alright?" We didn't say anything. "Tell me what's wrong," she demanded.

"Seth and Bre are missing," said Jane looking down so that she didn't have to see her reaction to the bad news.

"What?!"

"They're really missing. They've been gone since this morning or earlier."

"Did you try calling them, and they didn't leave a note?" Jane shook her head and that got my mom worrying even more. "I'm going to call dad and we're going to search around the neighborhood."

"Okay, we'll be outside waiting," I said.

"No you're going to wait until dad gets home then we'll go out together," my mom said to me firmly.

I nodded to let her know that I understood every word she was saying. Without another word to us, she quickly left the room. Leo was the first to speak.

"Let's make sure to search every inch of the woods."

Jane smacked him hard on the arm.

"Don't fucking jump to conclusion that they might be dead!"

"I'm sorry I'm sorry, I was just making sure we search the woods as well if we have to."

"Dad is coming home now," my mom called from the kitchen.

By the sound of her voice, I knew that she was trying not to cry. We ate a quick dinner and waited anxiously for dad to be home. Five minutes later, we were all outside and thinking of where to go first. Jane and I went off to the back yard and looked around. We got no response when we called out there names. Every little noise we heard got us

excited, only to be put down a second later. Hours would pass with no signs of them anywhere. I started to panic more and more every minute. I had to assure Jane that we would find them, and that we had to try to stay calm. I didn't want her to start crying for my sake. The others that were on the search didn't get a sign of them either. All of us decided to take one more round before calling it a night.

Around one in the morning, we headed back home. I went straight to my room like always. I didn't have time to think when Leo, Lily, and Jane came in.

"Are you thinking the worse?" I asked them.

They all nodded. The door opened again and my dad stood in the doorway.

"I just wanted to say goodnight to you all. We'll start the search back up in eight hours or so." We all said goodnight to him and Leo wanted to know if the police was going to be involved yet. "Yes, I'll call if we don't find them in an hour in to the search," he said and closed the door.

"I just hope we'll be able to find them, find them unharmed," said Leo.

"I hope so too," I said to him.

"I just can't -"

We all spun around and looked towards the window. I thought I heard a soft tap on the window. Apparently, the other three heard it as well. We waited to see if it would happen again, and sure enough, it did. I felt a little pressure in my head and I surely knew what that meant.

"Open the window."

I stood there unable to move.

"Jane, what you doing?" I asked her.

"It's one of the vampires outside," she said.

"He told me to open the window."

"Let's see what they want," said Leo.

I saw Jane moving to the window and opening it. She turned back to me.

"It's Trynnadon and Eric," she told me.

"May we come in?" Trynnadon asked her.

She looked back towards me and I nodded.

"Yes, you may come in," she said to them, and in they came, through my opened window.

Being the big sister that I am, I was the next to ask the question.

"Can I help you with something?"

"You don't look happy to see us, is this a bad time?" Trynnadon asked me.

"Um... yeah, it kind of is, Seth and Bre has gone missing."

The two vampires looked startled for a second, but composed themselves.

"We're um... sorry to hear that," said Eric.

"If you need our help, just let us know."

"Okay," I said.

"I'll talk to mom about it," said Jane.

"When you do, are you going to finally tell her what we are?"

Leo and Lily moved uneasily from where they stood silently in the corner.

"Will you kill me, if I do?"

Eric smiled at her in a friendly way.

"No, I won't," he said. "And neither will he. We'll leave now and let you all get some sleep."

At that, Eric and Trynnadon went back out the window and took off towards the sky. Jane, Leo, and Lily left my room after they took off, and I went to close the window. I got in bed, but I couldn't sleep. I lie awake for another two hours before finally drifting off.

I woke up feeling like I slept for only ten minutes. My door was opened and I heard Lily talking to mom and dad. I got up and went out to join her.

"I told them about last night," she told me.

I looked towards both of my parents and they clearly didn't believe a word.

"It's true," I said.

"Is there proof?" my dad asked.

"Yeah," said Jane as she walked towards us.

"They have fangs and they're super strong and fast!"

"They're willing to help us look for Seth and Bre," I said.

"C'mon, it's our only chance of finding them," said Jane.

"Okay," my mom and dad said in unison.

Just then, the doorbell rang. My dad got up and went to answer the door. I looked to see who it was. It was Eric and Trynnadon once again. They exchange a few words and my dad let them in. Leo finally joined us in the living room.

"We're sorry about all this," said Trynnadon.

"From what I heard and saw, I told these lovely kids of yours that we would help out in any ways possible. They've already agreed to it, and now we would like your consent to let us help you."

My mom and dad looked at each other for a long time.

"Are you really a vampire?" my dad asked him.

"Yes."

"Can you prove it?"

In a second, Trynnadon was in front of my dad, holding him with fangs out.

"Okay okay, I believe you," my dad choked out.

Trynnadon released him and backed away. My mom was in shock. It took her a while to get a hold of herself. She gestured towards the hall, dismissing us. I was the last to leave. I so wanted to know what they were going to talk about. I went to my room and leave the door open a crack. I went to sit on my bed, straining to hear, but it was useless. I did hear my mom cry though. I went to stand by my door to get a better listen in on them.

"Will you promise me that you'll find Bre and Seth and bring them home?" my mom asked the two vampires standing in the living room.

"No matter what happens to them, dead or alive, we want them back. Please, will you agree to not stop until you find them?"

I quietly opened my door a little bit more and peered out. Eric and Trynnadon looked at both of my parents with intense gaze in their eyes. I felt a slight pressure and waited.

"Please come out here."

I stepped out of my room as Lily, Leo, and Jane did the same. We all entered the living room as Eric and Trynnadon turned to face us.

"I give my words to all of you that we'll do our best," said Eric.

He looked at each and every one of us in the eyes with determination. The two vampires turned to leave. Before my dad closed the door on them, they both turned around and said four more words that would put us at ease that someone is out there looking for my brother Seth and my sister Breanna.

"We will. Find them."

Chapter 2

# Bloodlust Part II.

Part II.

Chapter Nine The NSC.

Have you ever ask yourself what would you do if you ever meet a vampire, or what it would be like to become one? My name is Eric Diloschuvick, and I am a vampire. Yes, I am scary, and yes I am dangerous to human kind, but there's one thing they don't know about me or about my organization. I'll talk about it later or when I feel like it, actually. I was introduced to a family of eight, just days ago. It all started out with my partner in crime, Trynnadon. After his encounter with a pretty young girl, Alyssa Kegorah,

he was enthralled with her sent and soon after, so was I. We decided to invite Alyssa and her brothers and sisters over for a little while, that's how I came to find her... interesting. They're not like other humans. Usually they would turn and run the opposite direction after they find out what we were. I wouldn't blame them at all. They should be afraid of us, but there's some who are interested and want to get to know us. We try to live in secrecy as much as we can, but sometimes things get in the way. Enough about that for now, because just last night, Trynnadon and I found out that two members of the Kegorah family has gone missing. The family agreed to let the NSC. (Night Stalker Crew) help out in the so call search with a desperate plea for their return alive and well. It's not an easy task to do, but I gave them my word that I would do the best I can. Trynnadon slipped a note on to Alyssa's desk while she was sleeping. The note contained information about us and what we do. Trynnadon and I are the leaders of this crew which consist of ten members. We stalk silently in the night watching, listening, and most of the time hunting for the next victim. We feed

and erase there memory before letting them go on their way. We protect the innocence and kill the criminals, and right now, Trynnadon and I are about to have some fun.

Chapter Ten Captivity

"You think the girl found the note yet?"

"I don't know, but if she does, she'll probably call."

I smiled at him, knowing that he was probably right. It was a couple more hours until sundown. Even though the sun doesn't kill us, we prefer the night.

"Well, I'd be interested to hear what she has to say about it."

I opened the door and stepped out. I made a run around the place.

"Eric."

I headed towards the voice on the other side.

"Yes?"

Warren took a step back as I stopped a foot in front of him.

"I spot a few people hanging around this area."

"And?"

"They look suspicious to me. They were conversing quietly about something."

"What did you pick up from them?"

I took a step closer to him.

"Um... I don't know. I couldn't catch what they were saying."

"Really?"

I put my hands on his shoulders. He flinched under my touch.

"Yes... one of them had a knife on them."

I took my hands off of him and studied him very carefully. Warren is a tall, built, muscular security guard with brown hair and bright green eyes.

"How many people did you see?"

"Three."

"Did the others have anything on them?"

"I don't know."

I pushed him up against the fence, my fangs extending out. I put my weight on him. He gasped and looked away from me. I growled at him to get his full attention. He faltered under my weight.

"If you see them again," I hissed at him. "Radio me immediately."

"Yes, I will," he stuttered.

I backed away and ran off. I cursed under my breath. I can feel the anger and bloodlust boiling up inside of me. I spit the nasty taste of venom out of my mouth. Thanks Warren, I said to myself as I went to the back. No human eyesight can detect something out of the ordinary, but my acute vision picked up something right away. Three humans were standing in the shadow surrounded by trees. I smiled to myself. Could this be the three that Warren was talking about? I took off towards the sky and went closer. I blended myself with the trees and listen to their conversation. There were two males and a female.

"Are we set on the plan?" one of the male said softly to his companions. The other two nodded.

"This place looks like it has security alarms all over the place," said the female.

"We'll find a way to get in without setting off the alarm," said the second male of the group.

By this time the bloodlust was overwhelming. I landed quietly and stepped out of the trees, making myself known to the three bastards in front of me. I could definitely tell that I caught them by surprise. I smiled at them, trying to hide my fangs.

"Hi," I said to them, stepping closer to the female. "What are you three doing here?"

"We... I... um... we were just walking around, sir," said the taller male.

With my mind force, I took a peek into his head. He was fucking lying alright, and I also pick up the fact that he was the leader of the group. Using my vampiric speed, I was in front of him in a flash. He quickly backed away and his eyes were darting all over the place.

"Really? I thought I heard you guys planning something, am I hearing things?"

They all turned to run. I got in front of them and pushed the taller male to the ground. I laughed gleefully while I stared them down.

"You want to try that again?" I asked and reached out for the female. She backed away quickly.

"I'll tell you right now that there's no chance of escaping."

Their eyes widen in terror. I smiled, showing a hint of my fangs. The female saw it and she screamed and ran for her life. I let her run until she got to the road, then using my power, I called her back. She responded like a child obeying a parent. I withheld my power on her and she turn to run again, but I got a hold of her. The other two didn't know what to do at all. They just stood there like a fucking asshole. She squealed and tried to break free.

"He's a fucking vampire!" she shouted to the others.

They didn't believe a word she said. They just looked at her like she was crazy.

"It's true, I saw his fangs!"

"Let's go inside," I said to them.

"Isn't that what you all wanted to do? Free access, no sounding alarms in the way," I looked at the taller male. "What do you say, master?"

He choked on air and turned to run. I pushed him to the ground with my mind force. I did the same to the other male.

"Let's try to be wise here."

I was still holding the female in my arms. She struggled to break free of my steel hold on her.

"You're going to come inside or this girl will die."

I bend down and put my mouth an inch from her juicy veins in her neck. She gave a blood curdling scream and attempted to push me away.

"Okay okay, we'll come inside!" shouted the taller male.

I straighten up, but didn't let go of the female.

"I'm glad to hear that."

I led the way back to the house.

"Mmmm, look what we have here," said Trynnadon.

"Are you going to share them with me?"

"Maybe, if I have any left."

He smiled and opened the door that led down to the dungeon.

"Have fun," he said to me and vanished out of sight.

The smaller male once again tried to flee. I grabbed him and kicked him down the stairs. I followed with the other two. I closed the door and locked it behind me and dragged them down with me. Oh what a fun night this is going to be. The dungeon was plain and dull. The walls were painted grey and the floor was black, just the way I like it to be. It is also soundproof and inescapable.

"Now that you are inside, what is it that you want?"

Nobody said a word or made a move. I took out my little taser device and pressed the button. I aimed at the smaller male. Two prongs shot out and were imbedded in his skin. He screamed and pulled it out.

I saw a trickle of blood on his arm and I groaned. He looked at his arm and shuddered.

"I'll ask again. What did you come here for?"

"Money," the taller male managed to choke out.

"Mmmm, I'm sorry we don't have any. I think you want something else as well. I'll let you three talk about it for a little while, but when I come back down, I want the answer. Is that clear?"

"Yes... sir."

I threw the female away from me and went back up the stairs and closed the door, barring the door with steel locks. I laughed and punched James.

"Don't fuck with them. They're mine." He nodded and walked away.

Chapter Eleven Trap

I entered my office and slammed the door shut. I didn't bother turning on my computer like I always do. I mentally called Trynnadon to me since I wanted him to scope out the Kegorah's property for me. A

minute later, I can hear him coming down the hall. I mentally opened the door and Trynnadon walked in.

"What's up Eric?"

"Do you mind scoping out the Kegorah's place for me?"

"Of course, I'm on it. I'll radio you if I know something."

"Thanks man."

"No problem." At that second, he sped off.

Ten minutes have passed since I spoke to Trynnadon. I got up and left my office. I headed back to the dungeon. I signaled for Kallie to follow me. We stopped in front of the door and I unbarred the door and slowly opened it. I turned to her and told her to go down first and retrieve the knife from one of the male. She did as I told. He hesitated for a while before handing her the knife.

"Good," I said to her and pointed towards the door, telling her to leave.

I went down the stairs and waited for one of them to speak.

"Gabriella."

The female cringed and backed herself to the corner of the room.

"How did you know my name?" she asked me.

I just smiled at her. I peeked into her mind. She was forced to do this in fear for her life.

"Who forced you?"

"What?"

"I said who forced you?"

"I don't know what you are talking about."

I got in front of her in a second.

"Who force you to join the gang?"

"Um... I... it's..."

She looked at the taller male. I didn't have to peek in her mind again to get the answer. By just the look she was giving him, I knew that he was the one forcing

her to join. I radioed Kallie to come and get her so that I can deal with the other two. Gabriella was taken away and I was free to have fun with my meals for the night.

"I'm getting a little annoyed here. Is somebody going to tell me exactly why I found three pathetic humans planning out a break in?" I still got no word from the two. I growled in frustration. The two males left in the room flinched. I was starting to lose my cool. "Are we going to play this the hard way or the easy way?"

There was another minute of silence. Fucking bitch! I grabbed the taller male and pushed him against the cold stone wall. I stared deeply into his eyes, pulling at his mind.

"We had an idea of kidnapping one of the girls we saw walking around this area," he said to me, his voice shaking uncontrollably.

"Why?" I hissed at him.

"We were going to kidnap her and demand a ransom."

"And how much were you going to demand?"

"Fifty thousand dollars, sir."

I took a step away from him, turning to face the second male in the room. I dragged him to the other side of the room and shot him with my taser. He groaned and doubled over in pain.

"Don't you fucking touch him," said the taller male.

I smiled a wicked smile. "Where did you send the girl too?" he asked me.

"Why do you care? You were going to kill her anyways if she didn't help out."

"I wasn't, I swear."

He was straight up lying, but I wasn't going to let him know that yet. I gave him another taste of my taser.

"Do you expect me to believe a word you're saying?"

The smell of blood was overwhelming, but I wasn't going to give in to my hunger yet. I wanted them conscious a little longer. I wasn't done questioning the shit out of them yet.

"Just for your information," I looked directly at the taller male. "Gabriella is now mine."

"No she isn't. She's mine."

"In what ways?"

He didn't answer after that. I bend down and leaned in.

"She didn't want this and you forced her into it. Do you have anything that can stick me or hurt me?"

"No sir."

I turned to face the other male and asked the same question.

"I don't have anything on me."

I sniffed the air to see if I can pick up anything on them. They were all on drugs, not a surprise on my part.

Lost in my own thoughts, I didn't notice that one of them had a gun until I was shot in the leg. I went down automatically. I can feel the blood gushing out. I looked down at my wound that was already healing. I snarled and knocked the gun out of his hand.

"You stupid fucking bitch."

They both looked horrified at what they've just done. I bared my fangs and launched myself on the taller male. I was enraged and hungry. He punched and kicked me with no avail. The other male scream for me to get off, but I wasn't in the mood to listen. I pushed the other male back with invisible force. He fell hard to the ground and was unconscious. The other one was still trying to push me off. He was panting and sweating at this point. I couldn't help myself but laugh.

"Please don't, I'm sorry," he said breathlessly.

I growled at him. "But I'm not."

I put my mouth to his throat as he scream and scream. I inhaled the scent and punctured his neck with my fangs. He screamed even louder. I suck hard and the sweet salted blood filled my mouth. I growled in pleasure. The warm liquid was very satisfying. I kept on sucking. After a minute, his body went limp underneath me and his screaming finally stopped, but I kept drinking until he was completely drained. I groaned and shoved him away from me. I

heard the door opened and looked up. Trynnadon came down the stairs and looked around.

"Is that your blood?"

He was looking at my leg which was soaked in blood.

"Yes, it is."

"How interesting that one of them managed to shoot you in the leg. How did that come about?"

"Hey, we're not all perfect, you know." He smiled at me, and licked his lips.

"Can I have this one?" he asked me, staring at the unconscious male on the floor.

"Go for it."

With vampiric speed, he had the unconscious male under him. He grazed his neck gently with his fangs before piercing the skin. The scent of blood got me going again. I groaned and cursed over and over. I watched as Trynnadon drained him dry. He withdrew his fangs and swiftly got off of him.

"Nothing suspicious to report," he said to me, a little annoyed.

"Oh well, Wesley is working on something."

"Good, did he find anything unusual?" I shook my head. "I'll talk to him while you get yourself cleaned up."

I nodded and got up slowly.

Trynnadon and I headed upstairs, finally leaving the dungeon. He put the steel locks in place before heading off in another direction. I went to my bathroom and washed the blood off myself. I quickly got dressed and left the bathroom. I heard Trynnadon over my radio, telling Holly to go get the gun from the dungeon. I headed towards Wesley's office. The door was opened so I just walked right on in. Wesley was on his computer, clicking away. He turned to me and looked up.

"Nothing new yet."

"Hmm... search for the Kegorah's number, and I want you to call them for more information."

"Sure will."

I left his office and went searching for Kallie. Of course, she wasn't hard to find. I stopped at her office door and listened. She was talking to Gabriella. I knocked softly and waited. A moment later, the door opened and I entered. Gabriella took a deep breath at the sight of me.

"Have you been keeping her comfortable, Kallie?"

"Yes, I have. I told her all about us."

"Ah... I see. How is she taking it?"

"She wants to work for us."

"Oh really?"

"Yeah."

I went over to where Gabriella sat and stared into her eyes. I peeked in her head and sure enough, she was telling the truth. I turned back to Kallie.

"Take her to Wesley, get her everything she needs, and have him put her on the simplest job."

"Okay, I will do that."

"Thank you for not killing me, sir," said Gabriella.

I smiled at her. "Just be thankful that your mind didn't play tricks on you." She nodded slowly and gave a sigh of relief.

I left the office and went outside to get some fresh air. I breathed in the cool night air. It felt wonderful against my pale skin. Warren was doing his usual patrolling job as a security guard. He saw me and looked at me with a questioning look. I listened in to his thoughts. He clarified that the three humans I took in was the one he was talking about, and he wanted to know if I got rid of them. I nodded and told him that I let one of them go, and that he would be seeing her pretty soon. I did my run around of the place and went to stand by Warren. I startled him like always. He looked apprehensive and backed away a few steps.

"You don't always have to be afraid of me." I snickered and took a step back.

"Uh... it's not that easy, you know."

I chuckled under my breath. "Don't worry, I fed."

He shuddered. "Well... I guess that's good."

"But it's never enough. Maybe, I'll decide to turn you. Then maybe you'll understand."

"Um... no, no thanks." I grinned at him.

"As you wish."

I turned and walked away, leaving Warren alone so that he can go back doing his job.

Chapter Twelve Wrong Place Wrong Time

I flew up towards the sky, enjoying the view from above. I circled the house one last time before landing. I headed back inside soon after. I leaned against the doorframe, and I went into my so call state of downtime to clear my head. I felt a hand on my arm, but I still didn't move or say anything.

"Eric, you look a lot paler than a few minutes ago," said Kallie.

Her voice sounded so far away to me. She wasn't alone. Gabriella, the female I spared was with her. I still didn't come out of my downtime state.

"Eric, you need to feed."

Okay, she was right about that. My eyes were probably showing it as well.

"Do I?"

My voice came out sounding just a little menacing, because they both took a great big step back from me.

"Um... yes." Her voice was quavering just slightly.

Gabriella came closer. I eyed her questioningly. Was she offering herself to me? No human ever done that so willingly.

"Eric, I knew you wanted me in the beginning to start with," said Gabriella.

Okay, I did want her. She slowly put her wrist out, making her point clear.

"Just take it."

I pulled her closer to me. Kallie stepped up right behind, and I smiled at her.

"Did you somehow put a spell on this girl's mind?" I asked her.

"No, it was all her idea. I'm just here to comfort her."

"Well, that's sweet of you, Kallie."

I bend down and put my mouth to Gabriella's wrist. She held her breath and gasped when she felt the sharp pain of my fangs. Her blood flowed slowly into my mouth. I teared at her wrist while she gasped and squeal, trying not to scream. I pulled at it so the blood would flow more quickly. I drank until she went limp in my arms. I licked at the wounds, healing it with my coagulant. I let her fall into Kallie's arms. I watched as she was escorted away to rest somewhere. I licked my lips and headed for my room. Good nights never go well without problem arising every now and then. I opened the shutter and looked out into the night. A minute later, I secure the shutter tightly in place. I exited my room in search of something to do. I was stopped by Trynnadon on my way out the door.

"Want to fly with me to the Kegorah's place?"

"Sure, nothing to do. Might as well."

We flew off into the night. We arrived at our destination five minutes later.

"Go see if you can find anything unusual while I talk to Alyssa." I nodded and made my descent to the ground.

I watch Trynnadon vanished out of sight before making my way around to the front of the house. I scanned the trees. Nothing jumped out at me like I hoped for. I slowly made my way around to the back, nothing here either. I decided to pay close attention to the ground. I wanted to see if there were any footprints lying around. I didn't see one anywhere. I flew up towards Alyssa's window and waited for Trynnadon to come out. I didn't bother to listen in on the conversation. Moments later, the window opened and Trynnadon came out with a cell phone in his hand.

"What you have there?"

"It's Seth's phone. I think Wesley will be able to get something off of it."

"Wonderful..."

We headed back home and straight to the tech lab. Trynnadon handed Wesley the phone.

"See what you can get from it."

He flipped opened the phone and scrolled through the menus. He entered the voicemail and listened.

"I can't make out anything," he said and gave the phone to Trynnadon.

I leaned against the wall, waiting.

"What is it, Tryn?"

He didn't answer me at first. He repeated the message again.

"Five million?" He nodded, exhaling sharply.

He closed the phone and set it down on the table.

"Go through his text messages," I said to Wesley.

He picked up the phone and scrolled through the menus again.

"He doesn't text much from what I can see here," said Wesley.

"Nothing suspicious here either."

"What about Breanna? Does she have a cell phone?" I asked Trynnadon.

"Her phone was on her when she was taken."

"Hmm..."

"I think we should have James and Callan stake out the place," said Trynnadon.

"I agree."

I radioed James and Callan to come to the tech lab as soon as possible. I sat myself down in an empty chair and played the waiting game. They both came in, not long after. I explained their job to them and send them on their way.

I slipped out of the tech lab and went outside. I sniffed the air. I smelled fear, anger, and... fresh spilled blood? I tracked the scent and followed it. The scent led me several blocks away. From here, on Evanston Avenue, the smell of blood almost drove me mad. I stood silently in the dark, listening. I heard the sound of heavy breathing from somewhere. I headed

towards the sound. I stopped at the bush. I can see blood trails everywhere. I levitated a few feet in the air and searched. Hiding in the bush, barely conscious was a young female. She was covered in blood. I held my breath and landed beside her. I looked her over carefully. There were many stab wounds on her body. I bend down and laid my hands on her arm. I hissed and jerked away. Her pain shot through me like fire.

"Who did this to you?" I whispered.

"That bitch Crystal," she said in between sobs.

"I'm going to die."

"No you're not."

I picked her up and carried her all the way home. She screamed and screamed until her voice gave in.

"Oh... hell!"

Trynnadon rushed to open the door and followed me to the infirmary. I laid her down on the bed as gently as I could. I was salivating at this point.

"Call Dr. Jenkins," I managed to spit out through tight lips.

Trynnadon punched the emergency button on the radio. A second later, I heard Dr. Jenkins voice, telling us he was on the way. I stared at the bloody girl on the bed.

"Don't," Trynnadon whispered to me.

I growled and hissed like an animal.

"I... know... who... you are," said the bleeding female.

Trynnadon and I looked at each other for a long time.

"I watched you every night."

"Tryn, is she hallucinating?"

"I'm not," she said, her voice getting weaker.

The door opened, and in came the doctor.

"About time you came."

"Yes, now I need you to get out of here," he said to both of us.

We didn't move an inch from where we stood. The doctor got in between the bed and me.

"Get out, get out get out!"

I groaned and turned around.

"Out!"

He pushed at us and we went to the door. Trynnadon snarled and ran out of the room. I was so overcome with bloodlust that I couldn't tear my eyes away from the blood.

"Eric, please get out. I can't take care of the girl when you're standing here salivating."

I still didn't move.

"Abby, take him out of here."

She grabbed my hand and with all her strength and her pleading, she manages to pull me away from the room. She dragged me outside and shut the door.

"Eric, snap out of it."

I looked at her dazed. She let go of my hand and I knocked her to the ground. I was on her in a flash.

She screamed and cursed. I snarled and bit her. She shrieked as I released a small dose of venom, paralyzing her. I fed hungrily for a few minutes. I closed the wounds and I got off of her. With my power, I put her into a deep sleep to fight off the venom. I signaled for Warren to take her inside, and I went to the isolation room and locked myself in.

Chapter Thirteen The Unexpected

I fell to the floor and breathed heavily in and out. No human scent lingered in here. I stared up at the white ceiling. I couldn't think straight. I bit down hard on my lower lip, drawing blood. I licked at it with pleasure. What a great night this was turning out to be. I fed three times today and I am still hungry. God fucking damn it! I got up slowly and flung opened the door. I went to the living room to watch some boring shit. I had to get my hunger under control. Half an hour later, I got a hold of myself, enough to visit the infirmary. I slowly made my way to the other side of the house where the infirmary room was, stopping to knock before letting myself in. The blood on the floor was cleaned up, but

with my acute senses, I can still smell the blood lingering in the air. I walked across the room and entered Jenkins's office. He looked up from his stack of papers.

"How is she doing?"

"She's out of danger for now. We'll see how she is when she wakes up."

"What happened to her? I want a full doctor report."

"She had a few scratches and bruises. She also has nine stab wounds on her upper body and defensive wounds on her hands, missing all her vital organs by an inch. If the attacker stabbed her an inch from the original spot, it could've punctured her pericardial sack."

I had no clue what the hell he was talking about. I stared at him confused.

"Pericardial sack?"

"It's a layer of membrane that surrounds the heart. If the knife would've got her there, it would be filled

with blood, slowing the heart down." I clenched my fist, controlling my temper.

"Thank you."

"No problem. That's my job, to save people."

"Will I be able to give her my blood once she wakes? I don't think she's going to be happy seeing those scars."

"Yes, you can give blood to her when she is conscious. I'll let you know." I nodded and thank him again before leaving.

I updated Trynnadon over the radio as I left the infirmary. Even though, I didn't need to breathe, I let out a slow breath.

Holly handed me a piece of paper. I took it from her questioningly.

"It's the report on the girl."

"What girl?"

She pointed to the hall that led to the infirmary room.

"Oh, just wonderful."

"It's going to... um... you know it's going to fuck with you. I'm just warning you." I looked at her suspiciously. She gave a fake cough and quickly walked away, shaking her head and cursing under her breath.

I walked to my office and closed the door, not even bothering to turn on the light. I so didn't want to read what was on the paper, but I had to. I looked at the heading on the paper. Only three words to set me off. I finished reading the paper and I managed to slowly put the paper on my desk, without breaking anything valuable. I roared and burst out of my office, pissed as fuck. I went to seek out Holly. I was still growling when I found her in her room. I heard the door click just as I was about to open it. I breathed slowly in and out to compose myself, just a little.

"Open the damn door."

I heard and felt Trynnadon behind me. She took a deep breath and finally opened the door. She leapt away from the door to land on her bed. Trynnadon and I slowly entered the room, his restraining hand

on my arm. She had a taser in her hand, specially made for vampires. It had a hundred thousand volts of electricity, enough for us to double over in pain, but sometime it doesn't work. Holly went to sit on the edge of the bed, away from us. Trynnadon cursed and looked from me to Holly.

"Tell me that you're fucking with me," he said to me.

I sighed. "I wish I was fucking with you, but I'm not."

Trynnadon had picked up everything from my head.

"Who gave you this report, Holly?"

She struggled to form a word.

"Scarlett."

I looked at Trynnadon. He shook his head. "Have no clue who she is."

I turned back to look at Holly.

"She ran up and gave it to me. She told me to read it as soon as possible. Jessica is her sister."

The room closed around me, and I was on Holly in a second. I felt the taser shooting in to me, but it was

ineffective, and a hand forcing me off of her. I was pushed to the floor and dragged out.

"Why didn't she tell us," Trynnadon said, mostly to himself.

He carried me out the back door, and I was told to stay out here. I closed my eyes and slipped into my state of downtime.

When I next opened my eyes, I was alone. Okay, I'm really losing it, I told myself. I swiftly got up and made my way back inside. I grabbed the report from my office and left just as swiftly as I came in. I folded the paper and put it in my pocket for later use. I silently stalk the streets of Los Angeles for Jessica's attacker or attackers. With no luck finding anyone, I headed back and finally called it a night, but first I went to check on Jessica. From a distance, I looked into the infirmary, she was awake. I knock softly on the doorframe to announce that I was there. I let myself in as she looked towards the door. I came to her bed, her green eyes following my every move.

"Hi," she said softly to me.

"I'm Jessica."

I already knew, but I had to play my part.

"Hi Jessica," I replied back.

"You are Eric?" I nodded.

"My sister and I have been watching you for a while now."

I didn't know what to say to that so I just nodded. She lifted the covers and looked at herself. She was hooked up on IV Drips. I assessed her injuries along with her. She frowned at the multiples scars on her body.

"I can make that go away," I said to her.

"How?"

"By feeding you my blood-that is if you want to get rid of the scarring."

She thought deeply for a minute. "No, I don't want to be healed. I'll wear these scars as a surviving victim."

I really smiled at that moment. She was a fighter. I bend down and gave her a hug. She hugged me back and thanked me over and over.

"Get better soon, sweetie. I'll see you tomorrow." She smiled.

I said goodnight to her and left in a way better mood than when I came in.

Chapter Fourteen The Struggles

I woke up to the buzzing of my radio, and I reach to grab it off the nightstand. I look at the small screen, it read 'Spotted three suspicious people lurking'. I stared blankly at the walls. Although it was completely dark in my room, I can still feel the sun shining brightly outside. I willed the sunglasses into my outstretched hand and slipped it in one of my pockets. I got up and let all my sharp senses roam around. I was the only one awake.

"James?" I said over my radio. "What do you have?"

"We found three lurkers around. They're planning to snatch another kid."

"Well, what do you know, just brilliant." I force myself to get up. "Keep watching them, be there in a few," I said as I left the room.

I could hear the stirring of another brain. I let my mental guard down. Abby was deciding to just crawl back into bed or make herself a nice cup of coffee. I mentally told her that I need a nice warm red liquid. I went to wait outside the bathroom. Five minutes later, she opened the door and looked around. She let out a small squeak when she saw me standing in front of her. She staggered back a step. I smiled at her, showing my fangs.

"Even though I'm very thirsty and very tempted to bite you right here and now," I said to her.

She took another step back from me. I took out my radio and typed out everything James told me. I buzzed her radio and she immediately took it out to read it. After a minute she nodded.

"Let Trynnadon know when he wakes up."

"Okay, I'll be sure to do that," she said breathing slowly in and out.

I stared at her longingly, but force myself to look away. I left her standing there and I headed for the front door. I put on my sunglasses and stepped outside. I breathed in the wonderful fresh air as I walked to the gate. I opened it and shouted to Warren to keep a good watch over the place, and I flew up to the sky, and sped to the Kegorah's place. I was there in five minutes. Surveying the ground below, I spotted James and Callan hiding in the shades of the trees. They both looked up at me. I descended to the ground. James looked at me sharply.

"When was the last time you fed?" he asked me.

I thought about it. "I've fed many times last night."

"But yet, you're still hungry."

I ignored him and got to the point. "Who?"

"Jane," said Callan.

My cell phone buzzed. I pulled it out and flipped it opened. I check through the phone to find a picture of... three men standing below a window and talking.

"It's the lurkers," said James.

I smiled with pleasure and licked my lips. I can't wait to taste them.

"I'll take over from here." They both nodded and vanished out of my sight.

I studied the picture a little longer. I closed the phone and shoved it back in my pocket. I walked out into the sunlight. Fear and worry was emanating from the house. I walked up towards it and scan the area. Hearing the door opening, I swiftly went undercover in the bushes. Not much covering from it, but it was something. I looked to see who came out. It was Alyssa and Jane. I carefully crawled out of the bushes and walked up to them.

They both looked around as I slowly approached them.

"Hey girls."

Jane took a quick nervous glance at her sister.

"Hi," Jane said, her smile growing wider. I wonder if she always smiles like that when she is nervous.

Alyssa pushed Jane behind her and she stood there in a defensive stance. She tried to keep her cool, but I could tell; she was slightly afraid of me. I smiled at her in a friendly way. Her posture relaxed slightly and she looked around wearily.

"I wasn't planning to hurt your sister," I said, trying not to sound frightening.

Alyssa took a deep breath and then she slowly step aside, standing beside her little sister.

Jane looked up at me. "Can I see your eyes?" she asked.

My eyes were burning, and I knew it was shooting flames. Not only that, I was standing under the sun, and if I took off my sunglasses, my eyes would hurt like a bitch.

"Not now sweetie," I said to her.

"Oh okay."

"I was hoping you would call," I said to Alyssa. "I was hoping you would remember anything Seth and Bre said the night prior to their abduction."

"Yeah but that's the thing, they didn't say anything to me or anyone else."

"I see..."

I felt the sense of danger in the air. It felt like a current of electricity coursing through me like fire. The two girls stiffened at my sudden advance on them. I grabbed both Alyssa and Jane and hurriedly led them to the door. I opened it and pushed them inside and closed it. I heard the lock turning and the deadbolt sliding in place. I casually sniff the air and started tracking the scent. There was more than one scent, three to be exact. I made my way around the property, keeping myself out of anybody's line of vision. I tracked the three scents across the street. Three males were gathered there watching. I once again took off towards the sky and flew to where they were. I landed silently behind them. I let go a wave of uneasiness and let it wash over them. They shifted uncomfortably and looked around. I rested my cool hand on the back of the shorter male's neck. He winced and turned to face me. He had brown unkempt hair and brown eyes. He wore a baggie

black sweatshirt and faded blue jeans. Many emotions played across his face from shock, to anger, to surprise, to being scared out of his wits. The other two had the same reaction, but I could tell that one of them wanted to run.

"What are you three gentleman doing here?" I asked.

It took awhile for one of them to speak. Finally the male wearing blue spoke up.

"Nothing sir, we were just waiting for one of our friend," he said calmly, but in his mind, he was wishing he was somewhere else rather than talking to me.

I saw the door open across the street. Theresa came out and looked around. She spotted me, and I willed her to go back inside, mentally telling her that everything was okay out here. She went back inside and closed the door. I turned my attention back to the three males in front of me.

"This friend of yours... does he or she live around here?"

All three nodded.

"Hmm, I find that hard to believe. Why do you all have telescopes?" They were all speechless. I smiled at them, still waiting for the answer, but they remain silent. "What are your names?"

"Jake," the tallest of the group said.

"Jenson," said the shortest male of the group.

The last one hesitated for a long time.

"Connor," he said, twitching slightly.

"Nice to meet you. We will become good friends in no time," I said.

Taking out my radio; I quickly texted for backup. I created an invisible shield around the three males so they couldn't go anywhere even if they tried. A black car with tinted windows came to a stop in front of us and Trynnadon got out. He grinned and handed me the blindfold and a pair of handcuffs. I lifted the shield and they made a run for it. I got a hold of Jenson while Trynnadon got Connor and Jake. I silenced him before he could scream. I slipped the blindfold on and tighten it securely. Pushing him to the ground facedown, I handcuffed him. I picked him

up all the while he is kicking me and shoved him in the car. Trynnadon pushed Jake and Connor in next and shut the door. I got in the car as Trynnadon came around to the driver side.

"Stop kicking," Trynnadon growled at our three passengers.

"Or do we have to shackle your legs too?" I asked.

They ignored us and kept on kicking the seats. I let go of my mental force on them and prevented them from kicking like a maniac. Trynnadon winked at me.

"You know, this is going to be another lovely night."

"I'm looking forward to it."

Trynnadon drove off in a speed limit that would put any racecar drivers to shame. The trees and mountains flew by. The three passengers in the back were having a panic attack. At last the car slowed down and made a turn in the driveway. The car parked and I got out and pulled Connor out followed by Jake. Trynnadon got Jenson and we headed inside. We threw them into a holding cell. We removed the

blindfolds and the handcuffs and before slamming the steel door, I let them out of there silencing and immobile trance.

Chapter Fifteen Torment

I ignored the bangs and the screams and headed further inside the house. I walked down the hall and stopped at the corner that led to the tech lab. I was thinking too hard that I didn't notice anybody coming up behind me. I felt a hand on my shoulder and I turned around. A blue eyed blond female stood in front of me. Kara is twenty-six years old and very useful when need to be. She wore all black to hide the weapons from sight. She work security off and on and is very good at it. Her hand slowly dropped to her side as I stared at her.

"Kara."

She took a deep breath and looked away. "I heard that another vampire is coming today."

"Oh really? I'll go wait for... who is it?"

"Donnica."

"Yes, I'll go wait for her to arrive, and I need you to stand by the holding cell until I get back. Don't want any chances of them escaping."

"Yes, I'll go do that."

"Run along now."

I sighed and went back outside for the umpteen times. I saw a female vampire standing at the gate. It has been a long time since I last saw her. What was she doing, coming back here? Warren slowly approached the gate.

"Warren? Let me in."

I held back quite a distance so she couldn't see me. I waited until it is necessary to make myself known.

"What business do you have here?"

"Business? Oh, I'm not here for business."

She couldn't enter without setting off the alarm and sending every single blood sucker running to the scene.

"Then what are you here for?"

"I'm here to see Eric and Trynnadon." She eyed him up and down. "You must be the new security guard; because I don't remember seeing you last I was here."

I could smell fear emanating from Warren. His thoughts were begging for the vampire not to hurt him.

"May I please enter?"

She stared up at the camera mounted at the top of the gate. The camera took a snapshot of her, and a beep sounded, completing her admission. Warren stepped aside and let her through. She entered and looked around and sniffed the air.

"I sense a vampire out here with you, who is it?"

"I don't know."

"Huh, you don't know the vampire that is out here, or you don't know that there is a vampire out here with you?"

Warren looked around nervously. "I didn't know that there was a vampire out here with me."

"Ah, but there is. Shall we go see who it is?"

She beckoned Warren to follow. I watched as they got closer to where I was. She stopped just a few feet away from me. She eyed me up and down and came a bit closer.

"Donnica," I said. "It has been a while."

"Yes, it has, I am grateful to be back."

I smiled. "Glad to hear it, but-"

"I have some information that might be of interest."

"About?"

"Don't be so... what's the word, modest? Yes, it's about Breanna and Seth."

I just looked at her blankly. "You're serious?"

"Yep, let me in on the fun, please. Besides, it wouldn't hurt having a female do the talking, you know, girl talk?"

I stared at her for a long while. "And when did you decide to do a case?"

She shrugged. "Since I heard about the kidnapping. Gotta keep up the perception, you know."

I nodded. "Well Warren, I can take over from here. Go back to your post."

Donnica smiled at me. "Does that mean I'm in?"

"Shall we go inside?"

"Of course."

I led Donnica around the back of the house and entered the backdoor. We entered the lower level of the house. She looked around quizzically.

"Nothing changed since I was here."

"We like to keep it that way." I smiled at her. "And you haven't seen the rest yet."

"Should I be excited about it?"

"Not really, just added a dungeon."

"Oooo, I can't wait to see it."

We entered my office at last and Donnica pulled up a chair and waited for me to start talking or whatever she has in mind. I closed the door and leaned against it. She pulled a folded paper from her pocket and handed it to me. I took it from her and waited for her

to say something or tell me what was written on the paper.

She let out an exasperated breath. "Well, are you going to open it?"

I blinked and slowly opened it. On it were two names.

"Who's Andrew and Cherry?" I asked her.

"They're the one who has Breanna and Seth."

"And how do you know all this?"

"I was following them. Well actually, I was spying on them. No harm done."

I grinned at her. "Well, I owe you."

"I can take you there. They don't live far from here."

"Hmm... we should hold off for a while. I want to interrogate my three friends in the cell."

"You do that while I keep watch on Cherry and Andrew." She winked at me. "I'll be waiting."

She got up and stretch. I moved away from the door. She touched the doorknob and turned to me.

"I didn't go inside so I don't know if they have the kids or not," she said.

"Don't try anything on them."

"Who, me? Now why would I do that?"

"I know you."

"Too well," she opened the door and walked out, closing the door behind her.

I stood alone in my office for a few minutes, gathering my thoughts. I licked my lower lip and went out the door.

I unbarred the door to the holding cell. Small and gloomy looking, the cell was twenty by twenty, big enough to hold my three lovely victims. They all shut up when I entered. The silence hung heavy in the air. Kara looked at me expectantly. I signal her to leave and she disappeared around the corner. I let the door slam behind me.

"Get on the fucking ground right now," I said to them.

They all drop to the ground in a split second. I don't understand how one minute they're brave and tough,

and the next they are scared out of their mind. It can't be me, can it? The tall one, what was his name? Ah yes... Jake, he was shaking uncontrollably. I knelt down beside him. I poke him gently on his arm and he jerked away from me. I grabbed his hand in mine. I knew what he was trying to do.

"What are you reaching for?" I asked him.

"Nothing sir, I don't have anything on me," said Jake.

I glanced at the other two who was a little too quiet for my comfort. They were both absolutely still, trying not to make a sound such as breathing, because they were both blue.

I smiled. "I didn't say to hold your breath. Breathe, I can't have you dying on me yet..."

They both let out a gush of air, forcing me to back away swiftly. All of them were staring at me. I couldn't blame them. No human can move that fast. I slowly made my way back to them.

I sighed. "I'll start with you," I said. I touched Jenson slightly. "Sit up."

He sat up and looked at Jake and Connor with pleading in his eyes. I stroke the back of his neck to get his attention. He shuddered and slowly turn to face me.

"A couple of very easy questions for you..."

"Yes sir."

I pulled out the pictures of Seth and Bre and showed it to him. "Where are they?" I asked.

"I don't know. I do not recognize them," said Jenson.

"Oh really?" I laughed. "Seth and Breanna, does that ring a bell?"

He stiffened and went pale. "What's wrong? You look like you just seen a ghost." I smiled at him.

"I don't know them."

"From your reaction, I think you do know who I'm talking about. Don't give me that shit."

I turned to Jake and Connor. "Do you know where they are, or are you going to play the... I have no clue what you're talking about charade?"

"We really don't know what you're talking about, sir."

"Please call me Eric. The "sir" is really getting annoying." They all nodded. "Maybe you can answer this next question then. Who is Andrew and Cherry?"

They attempted to hide their reactions, but knowing me, I didn't miss anything. I saw a bead of sweat broke out on all of them. I got up and pace the small confined room. I looked down at them, studying them, trying to hold myself together. I went to lean against the cold steel door. I pressed one of my fingers against my temple to stop the pounding in my head.

I sighed. "If you didn't notice, my patients are running out, fast, so one of you better start talking."

Jake looked up at me. "Please, we don't know who these kids are," he said.

"Jenson? Connor?" I said. "Are you backing him up?" They both nodded.

I smiled. "Well... this makes things more... what shall we say, more fun for all of us. No?"

I swiftly went to them. Grabbing Jake by the arm, I pulled him up to his feet. He staggered and steadied himself. I tilt his face up to look at me. Pulling at his mind, I saw the whole thing played out, just like watching it on a flat screen. I eased out of his mind and pushed him to the ground. The breath was knocked out of him. He gasp for air and tried to focus.

"What the fuck did you do to me?"

I hissed at him, and he backed quickly out of my reach. "I just entered your mind. Forgive me, I should've asked for your permission."

My hand shot out and pulled him against me. The other two stood up and ran for the door. I got a hold of Connor, but he manages to break free of me. They both pounded on the door. I watched them go at it for a few seconds then I turned back to Jake who was struggling in my arms. I tighten my hold on him. A small whimper came out of him.

"The more you struggle, the more I tighten my grip on you," I said to him in the sweetest tone I can muster up without wanting to sink my fangs in him.

He stopped his struggling and went limp. I turned back to the other two. They were still trying to break the door down.

"You're not going to get anywhere anytime soon, so I suggest you stop," I said to them. They both froze. "Back away from the door now."

The sweet scent of blood bombarded me all of a sudden. I stiffened which tighten my hold on Jake. He cried out in pain. I let go of him and backed away, looking here and there. None of the blood was from them. I clamp down hard and exited the room, securing it before going up the stairs. I met Trynnadon just outside the second door that led to the dungeon. He was panting while I was trying not to make a run for the source. Trynnadon eyes were wild. He stared at me like I just stepped out of a pool full of blood.

"What the fuck!" he spit out.

I shook my head. I pointed towards the door that led outside. Trynnadon turned to face the door. He inhaled deeply and curse. I groaned. I made a gesture

that he should open it. Trynnadon took a few steps forward and slowly, very slowly opened it.

I cursed out loud and stepped up beside Trynnadon. Outside the door stood a young girl. She looked about twelve or thirteen. She was covered in many cuts and bruises, and the cuts were still bleeding. I shut my eyes and tried to get the blood off my mind. I opened it and looked at Trynnadon. He was staring at the wall. I look back at the girl who was still standing outside the door. She was slightly shaking and tears were running down her cheeks. Her clothes were torn. She held out her small hand to me. I took a step back from her. She rubbed both of her bloody hands on her shirt. I mentally ask Trynnadon why James and Callan didn't come out. His answer was as simple as, "they are out." The girl stared at both of us.

Trynnadon muttered under his breath. "You can come in," he said, backing further away as she slowly came in.

I also took a few steps away from the door. I was holding my breath, wishing that this was all just a fucking dream, but it wasn't. I would have let one of

the humans take her, but I couldn't smell any human scent inside. There was only me and Trynnadon. The worse people to go too when covered in blood, especially when those people are vampires and haven't satiated there hunger. The girl once again held out one of her hands out towards us. Trynnadon and I stared at each other, wondering what to do.

"I know what you are," the girl said in a small trembling voice.

I turn my head to look back at her. "Do you, little girl?"

She shuddered. "Yes."

"What are we?" Trynnadon asked.

"A vampire."

"Very good."

I motion for the girl to follow. Trynnadon and I led her into the house and into the infirmary. I went to the drawers lined up against the right side wall. I pull out a hospital gown and handed to her.

"Take off your clothes and put this on," I said. "Let us know when you are ready."

I turn to face the opposite wall to give her some privacy. I silently told Trynnadon to go hunting and not to worry. He looked at me for a minute. He nodded and left me alone with the girl. I promised him I wouldn't hurt a hair on her body. I took out my radio and paged Dr. Jenkins.

"I'm done," the girl behind me said.

I turned around. I smiled at her. "Can you hop on the bed for me?"

She nodded and got on the bed. She was a little off balanced, but she managed not to fall.

"I'll stay here with you until the doctor gets here."

"You're not going to check me out, like a nurse?"

I chuckled. "No, I can't." She nodded.

I went to stand by the door, waiting anxiously. She tracked my every move.

"You're not going to hurt me?" she asked.

I sighed. "To be honest, I'll really, really try not to."

"I'm sorry."

"Don't be, I don't think it's your fault."

"It was my mommy and daddy that did it."

She pulled me back to my senses. "What did you say?"

She shook her head vigorously. "You don't have to repeat yourself," I said.

I heard three quick knocks on the door. I opened it and let the doctor in.

"This is Dr. Jenkins," I said to the girl. "He'll take good care of you." I smiled at her one last time and swiftly exit the infirmary.

I headed back down to the dungeon. I once again let the steel locks slide out of place and entered. I've had enough of trying to pry things from their heads. They were talking to one another as I entered.

"Are you ready to tell me everything you know?"

"I don't-" Jenson began to say, but I cut him off.

I landed on top of him, sending both of us catapulting to the ground. He started screaming. I wrapped my hands around his neck and slowly applied pressure. He stopped screaming the moment I tighten my grip, but I didn't relinquish my hold on him. I gazed at the other two. They both shivered.

"You're very... very... very... quiet," I said. I growled. "So are you just going to let your friend go? Just like that? You're not going to help him?"

Jenson whimpered, and I squeezed a little harder. "What a pity."

He made another small sound and I applied more pressure, cutting off his airwaves.

"Please don't!" Jake finally shouted.

I snickered. "That's what I called a true friend..." I looked at Jenson. "Don't you think?"

"Let go of him! Please!"

I let go my hold on Jenson's neck. He struggled for air. I let him pushed me off of him.

"You fucking bastard!" shouted Jenson.

I laughed. "Is that all you can say? Very impressive."

The three lunged at me. I swiftly got out of the way as Jake made an attempt to stab me. This went on for a few minutes. I knocked the knife out of his hand. It clattered to the floor. He bent down to retrieve it, but I had it in my hand before he can even get to it. Then they came for me again. Their fists making contact with my head. I let them have it for another minute then I lost it. In a flash I grabbed one of their arms and threw them off balance. I kicked one of them across the room. I bit down on Connor's forearm and swallowed a mouthful, and threw him away from me. He gave a curdling scream and cradled his arm.

"Enough!" I shouted. I licked the blood off my lips. "You pathetic fools," I hissed.

I can strongly taste there fear in the back of my throat. I threw the knife up into the air and caught it.

"You think this knife protects you from everything?" I hefted the knife. "This looks nice and sturdy, think I'm going to keep it."

Perspiration permeated the air mixed with the smell of blood and fear. I looked towards Connor. He still was cradling his arm in his hand.

"How's that arm of yours?" I asked. His panting got faster. "Is it that painful?"

"You-you fucking bit me."

I half smiled. "Yes, I did. Very tasty." I licked my lips, savoring the sweetness of it all.

I pocketed the knife and got up. I walked towards them. They quickly backed away. I swiftly got to the floor and grabbed Jake's ankle and pulled him down and slowly towards me. He screamed and kicked me. I grabbed his other ankle and pulled him swiftly under me. I held him down with my weight. I glanced at Connor and Jenson. I had them where I wanted. I smiled and put them in a mobile trance.

"I know everything," I said. "I gave you many chances to come clean."

I chuckled. "Perhaps I would've let you all go." My voice trailed to a whisper.

"Oh what a pity mistake."

I turned my attention back to Jake. I whispered in his ear. "As for you, I expected much more from you, but you're stupidity got in the way. Did you think I didn't know you had a knife in your pocket?"

His whole body was stiff. The muscles in his jaws were jumping like crazy. I kissed the side of his neck. He jerked under me.

"I'll let you scream."

I slide my mouth to the strongest pulse in his neck. I let go of the silencing power that kept him mute. My tongue pressed against the pulse that was getting faster by the second.

"Please!"

"Please what?"

"Please! I'll tell you everything!" he screamed out.

"It's too late for that," I whispered.

"No-"

I plunged my fangs deep and pulled at it hard. Jake scream filled the dungeon room as the warm sweet liquid slowly satiated my hunger, but of course it wouldn't be enough for one night. His scream died down and his body went limp. I swallowed my last mouthfuls and got up swiftly.

"Have a nice meal?"

I turned around to find James standing against the door. "Yes," I said.

He smiled at me. "Do you mind sharing?"

I snickered. "Take your pick."

James walked over to Connor. "I smell blood strongly on this one. Did you take a great bite off of him?"

I laughed. "Fuck off."

James grinned and pulled Connor closer to him. "Trynnadon will be down in any second, so you can take a break."

"Oh, I'll be happy to go. Well, not really, but you know what I meant."

I turned and unlock the steel door and left the other two to Trynnadon and James, because I sure as hell need some fresh air to clear my head.

Chapter Sixteen Cautious and Aware

I step out and inhaled the cool air. My eyes scanned the night. I found Gabriella out by the front gate. I walked over to her.

"Hello there," I said as I approached the gate.

She jump and made a halfway turn, startled at my silent approach. "Oh! Um, hi."

"Someone's a little nifty tonight..."

"Um..."

"Didn't mean to sneak up on you like that," I said half annoyed.

I put my arms around her and pulled her into my embrace. Her breath caught in her throat, and I put my mouth to her hammering pulse. She made a protesting noise. I chuckled in amusement.

"Mmmm... you smell delicious. I'm debating on if I should bite you and taste you for a second time..."

I grazed the skin with my fangs. She made a small squeak and her breathing grew faster.

"Please don't hurt me," she whispered.

"Hmm... how's your guard duty coming along?"

"It's going well. Warren is showing me the ropes," she said, her voice came out a little shaky, because I still had my mouth on her throat.

"Is Warren at the back?"

"Yeah."

I sighed and she jerked slightly. I gathered all of my strength and let her out of my embrace. She gave a shuddering sigh of relief and took a step away from me.

"That's good to hear."

I gazed up into the night sky and groan. I heard someone approaching, and my gaze followed the sound. Kara, Holly, and Abby were walking towards us.

"Evening girls," I said. "Out for a night walk?"

"Nope," said Abby. "We're just here to give Gabriella some company."

"Mmmm... how generous of you."

"Eric, I need to talk to you," said Holly.

I turned to look at her. "How surprising. What do you need to talk to me about?"

She motion for me to follow. She led me back inside and to her office. She closed the door and went to sit at her desk.

"Well, actually I wanted to tell you something," said Holly. I nodded. "I've been talking to that girl. You know, just small talk to keep her comfortable and well-"

She was searching carefully for the next word. She sighed deeply and pursed her lips. "Her name is Scarlett. Jessica's sister."

"Ah huh..."

She pointed to my pocket. "You have that letter I gave you?" I nodded. "Well, she told me that Cherry and Andrew has them, and Crystal is the third of the trio."

I gave a low long growl. Holly flinched and tensed up as I studied her. "I really owe you for this, Holly," I said. "I better get going," I whispered.

"Do you know where they live?"

"Yes, Donnica has the location."

She nodded. "I'm guessing she's gonna be there?"

I nodded. "And I'm bringing Tryn with me."

"Well, should I say good luck?"

I chuckled. "As you wish."

I opened the door and went to seek Trynnadon. I found him coming out of his room. He stopped as he saw me.

"I think I know where the kids are," I said.

"Do you?"

"Had some help here and there."

"Mmmm... am I along for the ride?"

"That's why I came to find you."

He smiled. "I'll be happy to accompany you."

I nodded. "Donnica's already at the location so we're meeting her there."

"Driving or flying, my friend?" he asked precariously.

I smiled. "Flying, wouldn't want to attract any attention."

"Of course, meet you by the gate," he said and in a flash, he was gone.

Faster than any eyes can track, I was outside in a second. I walked over to Tryn. I poked Abby as I passed her. She turned and I winked at her.

"Where's Holly?" asked Kara.

"Right there," I said and pointed towards her as she came out.

"Oh."

Trynnadon and I flew towards the sky. I looked down at the three girls. They were all staring up at us.

"Could you please tell us before you take off like that?" yelled Abby.

"Sorry," Trynnadon yelled back. Then we were off.

"Do you think the kids are in the house or do you think they're somewhere else, and we have to torture them to get the information?" Trynnadon asked me as we slowly descended to the ground.

"Oh I think they're going to make this hard on us," I said.

"Hello Eric, Tryn," said Donnica.

"Hello Donnica," I said.

"Hey," said Trynnadon. "Anything new?"

"Nope, I've been watching them through the window. Only Cherry's home, don't know where her beloved husband is. They have a basement, no window so I couldn't be sure if they have the kids or not. As for my opinion, I don't think the kids are here, if they were, I would've be able to hear them or smell there scent all over."

"Wow," I said. "Alright Donnica, you're in."

"Sweet," said Donnica. "Shall we break in like a team of SWATS or should we make it look like a home invasion?"

"Hmm... how about two of us break in and one of us stays out here in case someone else decides to make an appearance?" Trynnadon suggested.

"Oooo, I like that idea," Donnica said.

"I'm in," I said.

"Great, I'll be the lookout and on a standby if you need me," said Trynnadon. He laughed. "That is if you want me to be a part of something." He winked at both of us.

I grinned. "Of course, we wouldn't leave you out on all the fun now, would we Donnica?"

She laughed. "Of course not."

"Lovely to hear, now get going," said Trynnadon.

Donnica and I headed around to the lowest window we could find. After a minute of searching, we finally found one. Donnica peered through it and signaled that it was all clear. I went to stand beside her. I heard the lock quietly gave way and I saw the window slowly opening. I pointed towards her and then the window. She got my point and climbed in. I

levitated a few feet off the ground and flew in after her. I quietly landed on the ground.

"I wish I can fly like you," she whispered to me.

We were standing on the lower part of the house. It looked like an office of some sort. A desk was to the far left corner of the room with papers all over in a messy pile. A file cabinet was just behind the desk on the opposite wall. A cup full of pens and pencils were sitting on top with boxes of paper-clips next to it. Lining up along the right side of the room were shelves after shelves of books. No pictures were hung on the walls and no decorations of some sort to be seen anywhere. The office was dull and plain. This must be Andrew's working space I thought as I took in everything around me.

"Looks like the wife doesn't come in here much," said Donnica.

"Or their kids," I said.

"They have kids?"

I nodded. "Jessica and Scarlett, I thought you knew that."

"Hey, I don't keep watch 24-7 you know."

"Open the door," I said.

She used her power to open the door. We went through it and up the stairs.

"Never mind about the basement thing," she said. "Guess it was an office after all."

"I'm guessing the kids are not here as well," I said.

"Damn fuckers," she hissed.

"Do you know about the third one that's in on this?" I asked.

"No, who is it?"

"Another girl, her name is Crystal."

"Ah okay, thanks for the info."

I opened the second door. It led to the kitchen. We entered the kitchen and to the right, an opening led to the living room. The TV was on and Cherry was too busy to notice that two strangers were in her house. Using my telepathy power, I told Donnica to turn out all the lights. Her eyes went out of focus and one by

one the lights went out. Donnica and I moved slowly to the living room as Cherry's scream pierced the silence. Her scream died down after a minute and she stood up feeling her way around. We followed her back into the kitchen. She opened the first drawer that her hand found, rifling through it. After finding nothing of use, she closed it and went on to the next one. I turned the kitchen light back on as she was about to open a second drawer. She blinked in the sudden glare of the light and looked around. She shriek as she saw us standing there staring at her. I suppose Donnica silenced her, because her shrieking stopped abruptly.

"Cherry... Cherry... Cherry... how lovely to meet you finally," said Donnica.

"What do you want from me?" gasped Cherry.

"That's a good question," said Donnica. "What are you doing here? Who are you? What did I do to deserve this? What do you want? Blah... Blah... Blah... the same questions every single time. We sure do get tired of it. So... to answer your question, we're here for the kids that you, your husband, and your friend

have kidnapped days ago. Does that answer your question, Cherry?"

"I... I... I don't know what or who you're talking about," stammered Cherry.

"Is that so?" I asked. I went closer to her. "You're a horrible liar, Cherry."

Donnica stifle a laugh. "You are and you know it."

"So... let's start over," I said. "Where are they?"

"I honestly don't know."

I bared my fangs at her. "Do you wish to tell me now," I hissed "Or do you wish to have some time to get your thoughts together?"

She stumbled backward, steadying herself by holding on to the counter. "Yes, but my husband is going to be home soon," she said, gasping for air.

"I'll be happy to meet him," I said, growling.

"Please don't kill me," she pleaded with me.

I knocked her to the ground, her head hitting the counter. I could see the lump slowly rising on her

head. "Please enlighten me, Cherry. Maybe, you'll be lucky," I said softly to her.

I left her weeping on the floor and walked out the door, Donnica following right behind. Now outside, I once again hid myself in the shadows. Donnica went the opposite direction for who know what. Maybe she was circling the house, making sure that Cherry didn't make a run for it.

"I'll take the pretty girl," Trynnadon said from behind me.

I turned around to face him. "And you expect me to drain a drugged up fucker?"

He snickered at me. "And I thought you liked the taste of heroine."

"Not particularly."

"Well, you surprised me once again." He now showed me his fangs and smile slightly. "You know Eric, I like you better when you're riled up."

I took a peek into his head. "Ah, you fucker," I hissed at him.

I took a quick leap into the air, but I wasn't fast enough. He grabbed me and pulled me back down to the ground.

"Honestly Eric, I'm more surprised to find that I'm much faster than you."

I growled and attempted to break away from him. He swiftly got a hold of my leg. At this point, he pulled me under him, pinning me to the ground. I pushed him off of me and swiftly got up, but just as swift, he knocked me back down. He snarled at me.

"I said I like you better when you're all riled up."

Before I could push him off of me, he sank his fangs into my neck. A gasp escape my throat as I felt the sharp stinging pain, I couldn't help it. As he drank, my skin started to tingle with tension, my eyes dilate, and my throat tightens as my hunger rose. What feels like eternity, Trynnadon finally withdrew his fangs from my neck. I didn't give him a chance to get off of me on his own; I got a hold of him and threw him into the trees. It shook with the force of the impact.

"I hope you enjoyed your dinner," I said to him. He got up, and with his vampire speed, he was in front of me. "How did it taste?" I asked him sarcastically.

"It was delicious, of course."

He looked out towards the street, my gaze following his movement. I caught a whiff of humans nearby. I figured it was the husband making his way home. I felt a hand on my shoulders. I knew it was Trynnadon holding me in place. I tensed up. I wanted blood and I wanted it now. A small growl escaped my throat. Trynnadon circled me in a tight embrace. He chuckled in my ear. I was salivating, my fangs aching to rip someone's throat out, but I knew I had to keep my head on straight for just a little longer.

"Patient now," he said to me.

I can see the headlight of a car coming up the driveway. Trynnadon pulled us further into the darkness, talking to me all the while. I stiffened up and held my breath to gain control of my hunger. It didn't help much, but it was better than breaking down the fucking door and drained both Cherry and Andrew dry before finding Bre and Seth. I went very

still in the circle of Trynnadon's arms. I watched as the car stopped in the driveway. I saw the car door opened and a short man with brown hair and brown eyes stepped out. He looked carefully all around before closing the door. Satisfied, he walked up to the front door and inserted the key and opened it, closing it behind him. I made to step out of Trynnadon's embrace, but he held me tighter. He put his wrist to my mouth and my fangs pierced his skin. I drank deeply and hungrily.

"Enough," he said and he pulled his wrist away, tearing it even more.

He licked his wound shut and let me go, his hand moving to my shoulder. "Are you controlled?" he asked me. I nodded. "Good, we'll go back inside when Donnica join us."

A moment later, Donnica appeared in front of us. "My, my, my, somebody looks hungry," she said looking directly at me.

I pointed towards Trynnadon. "Blame him, it's all his fault," I said.

She smacked him on the arm. "Ow, what did I ever do?" Trynnadon asked.

"Oh hush, let's just go and get this shit done and over with."

We all headed towards the house. We stood outside the front door. Cherry was hysterical and Andrew was trying unsuccessfully to calm her down. Trynnadon rang the doorbell. The house went silent all of a sudden. Donnica knocked on the door. Cherry was pleading with her husband not to open it. This went on a little longer then the door opened a crack. Andrew peered out at us suspiciously.

"Can I help you?" asked Andrew.

Donnica flashed a friendly smile. "We're wondering if we can come in for a few minutes?"

"Don't let them," said Cherry. "They're dangerous. Please do not let them in."

"What do you want?" Andrew asked.

"We just want to talk to you and your wife about certain things," Donnica said in a friendly tone.

"No, Andrew don't," pleaded Cherry.

He tried to close the door, but I put my hand out to stop it. "We're not going anywhere until you let us in," I said.

"I don't know who the fuck you are, but I have the right to tell you to leave," said Andrew. "I'm calling the cops if you don't leave my property."

"That's not necessary, Andrew," I said. "You either let us in or we'll force our way in, you're choice."

He tried to close the door for the second time, but I kept it from moving an inch. "Let us in," I said with a hint of menace to my tone.

"What the hell do you want from us?"

"Let us in and we'll tell you," said Donnica.

"I don't think so," said Andrew.

I pushed on the door and Andrew stumbled backward. Cherry screamed and made a run towards the hallway. Donnica caught her before she could make it to her room. Andrew cursed and quickly backed away. He pulled out a pistol and pointed it

steadily at my head. I closed the door behind me and took a step further into the house.

"Don't come any closer or I'll pull the trigger," said Andrew. He switched the gun to point at Trynnadon. "Same goes for you."

"Now now, let's not play this kind of game. I don't like it," said Trynnadon. "It's not my favorite game to play."

Donnica had Cherry by the throat, and she was tightening her grip by the second.

"Why don't you be more concern about your wife instead of trying to make us leave," I said to him.

He turned to look for Cherry and I took the moment to get the gun out of his hand. The gun flew out of his hand and I caught it in mine. He turned back around and I had his own gun pointing at him.

"Donnica, let her go," I said.

She released Cherry, and I pocketed the pistol. "Let's all play nice, shall we?" I asked. "Let's not be too harsh on each other just yet."

"What do you want?" asked Andrew.

"Where are they?" I asked.

"Who?"

I pulled out a picture of Seth and Bre and showed it to him. "Them, where are they?" I asked again.

"I do not know who they are," he said.

"You're terrible at lying. Quit the fucking act and tell us where they are."

"I don't know who the fuck they are," Andrew said, his voice rising up a notch.

Donnica stepped up in front of me. "What about Crystal? Do you know who she is?"

Cherry and Andrew both squirm uncomfortably. "She's one of our friends," said Andrew.

"Ah... we're finally getting somewhere," said Donnica. "Where is she?"

"She's at home."

"We would like to question her as well. Do you mind calling her up?"

"She doesn't like to be bothered this late in to the night."

"Then tell us where she lives."

"I can't do that."

"Then call her and tell her to come over here," Donnica said, half annoyed.

"I'm sorry, I can't."

Trynnadon took Cherry away from Donnica and threw her to the ground. He was on top of her in a flash. She screamed and thrashed under him. Andrew attempted to go to her rescue, but Donnica grabbed him and held him firmly in place. Trynnadon looked at Andrew struggling in Donnica's arms. He showed his fangs and Andrew screamed in horror.

"You... are... going... to tell us where Crystal lives or I'll be happy to bite her head off," Trynnadon hissed at him.

Cherry screamed even louder and Trynnadon cut her off with the power of silencing. Andrew was still in shock and he gasped for air.

"Okay, okay I'll tell you where she lives," he said breathlessly.

"Tell us... and I'll let her go," said Trynnadon.

After getting the address from Andrew, I switched the subject of conversation to Scarlett and Jessica. They were surprised all over again. I told them that Scarlett and Jessica wouldn't be coming back to see them, and Trynnadon, Donnica, and I wiped their memories of us ever being there questioning them, because we would be back for a second round of questioning or more death threats.

Chapter Seventeen Time of the Essence

Outside in the shadows of the night, Trynnadon and Donnica were debating on what to do next. I, on the other hand was itching to go see Crystal. At the end of it all, my luck gave in. and here we were standing under the street lamp where passerby can see us.

"Who's going to carry me? You know I can't fly," said Donnica.

"We'll run," I said.

"Oh good, I need my exercise anyways. Oh and why didn't you let me bite that bitch?"

"Because, that so called bitch-"

"Is mine," Trynnadon interrupted.

Donnica growled at him. "Fuck you, fuck you both."

Trynnadon and I both laugh. "Okay fine, I'll share," said Trynnadon. "Happy now?" He smirked at her.

"Not really, but I'm satisfied."

"Good."

We rounded the corner and I could see the house up ahead. It looked like a one level kind of a house.

"Looks like she lives alone," I said.

"I think she does live by herself," said Trynnadon.

We walked up the driveway. The house had a blue roof and the garage was painted white. Other than that, it looked very ordinary.

"Can you smell them here?" asked Donnica.

I sniffed the air and staggered back a step. I groan. "Shit."

Donnica looked at me. "That looks like a yes." She smiled.

"Dry blood," said Trynnadon.

Donnica drew in a deep breath and choked. "Fuck me. They're here somewhere." Trynnadon and I both nodded. "Let's go get her."

Trynnadon and I followed Donnica up to the door. She knocked softly and we waited. No answer from inside the house. She knocked again, a little louder this time. Still, there was no answer.

"I know she's in there," she whispered.

Trynnadon flew up to the sky. "I'm going around back."

I waited with Donnica. She continued to knock. There was no doorbell to ring; actually it was broken so it was no use. I sighed and pounded on the door.

"Break the door down," I said.

"No way, it'll look obvious and we don't want the cops here."

"Fine, open it then."

I heard a click and Donnica slowly opened the door. The air from the house send us both back a few steps.

"What the fuck has she been doing here?" Donnica spit out.

"Let's go," I hissed.

Trynnadon swoop down a second after, and we all entered. No lights were on, but I could see everything clear as day. The living room was empty. Only a coffee table and a chair stood in the middle.

"Nothing in here," Donnica whispered from the kitchen. "Only a few dry food."

We made our way around the house, finding nothing of interest, but the smell of dry blood lingering in the air.

"Let's go back to see Cherry and Andrew," I said.

"Wait," said Donnica. "Come here, both of you."

Trynnadon and I walked over to her. She was standing by the garage door, staring at it. She opened the door and walked out. We followed behind. We all stood just outside the door staring at the ground. Naked to human eyes, a small pool of blood was barely visible.

"Shit, shit, shit!" Donnica yelled, her face going paler than ever. "Are we too late?"

I growled. "I hope not."

We ran back inside and out the front door in matter of seconds. Trynnadon grabbed Donnica and we flew to the sky. We headed back to Cherry and Andrew. We dropped from the sky and nearly broke down the door. It flew opened and hit the wall with a sounding thump. Trynnadon flung the door shut and we all tackled Cherry and Andrew as they were coming

from the hall. Cherry screamed louder than ever, and I struck her on the side of the head, knocking her out cold. I swiftly got off while Donnica held her to the ground. Andrew was pleading and screaming at Trynnadon. He bared his fangs and struck. I silenced Andrew's screams and I used my power to inflict pain to his body. Trynnadon pulled back and let out an animalistic growl. I went over to them and lower myself to the floor. I stared at Andrew who was in an extreme pain. I willed him to remember our last visit and all the blood that was left drained from his face. I eased up on the pain.

"Sit him up," I said to Trynnadon.

Andrew was sweating and shaking uncontrollably. I put my hand on his arm and leaned in. "Where... is... Crystal?"

I let go of the silencing power and his scream pierced the air. I silenced him again and told him to keep quiet or else. I eased up once more and he was as silent as he can be.

"She, she, she's not here."

"Where is she?" I growled.

"She's gonna be back in five ten minutes," he gasped out.

Trynnadon leaned in and whispered in his ear. He jerked violently and started to plead again. I heard a moan and I whipped my head around to see Cherry waking up. She blinked and looked around. Her eyes came to focus and she screamed and tried to throw Donnica off of her. Donnica pinned her and smiled sweetly down at her.

"Stop screaming or I'll drain you dry." Donnica bared her fangs and Cherry fell silent instantly.

"Is she coming here?" I asked. Andrew nodded. "Good, I think we're going to have a good time."

Trynnadon got off of Andrew and kicked him across the room. "Stay there," he hissed at him.

"While we have you cooperating, why don't you tell us where the kids are," I said.

"I don't know where they are," said Cherry.

"Fine, play it your way for now, but when Crystal gets here, your game is over. Do we understand each other?" She nodded. "Very good."

I got up and paced the room, my hands flexing all the while. The silent hung in the air for a very long time. I stopped pacing as I heard the engine of a car pulling up. Trynnadon and Donnica went on alert.

"Go open the door for your friend," Donnica whispered to Cherry.

Donnica, Trynnadon, and I went to the window and opened it and swiftly went out. The window closed behind us and we headed around to the front. A brunette female in black was standing on the doorstep She pressed the doorbell and a chime sounded from inside. The door opened and Cherry stood in the doorway. They exchange some words and the door opened wider and Crystal entered. We headed back to the window that led into the office and quietly entered.

"Let's see if they'll reveal the location of the kids," said Donnica.

We stood listening and waiting. "Cherry?" said Crystal. "What's wrong?"

"Nothing," said Cherry.

"There's something wrong, you're very twitchy."

"No, no I'm fine. Really, I'm fine."

"Okay."

Donnica opened the door and the tough looking girl turned to see who it was. "Who are you?" asked Crystal.

"I'm Donnica. It's nice to finally meet you at last. Please, let me introduce you to my partners. This is Trynnadon and Eric," she said pointing at us.

My eyes were all on Cherry who was about ready to scream and Andrew who was silently plotting out something that I didn't bother to go further into his mind.

"Um... it's nice to meet you too. Are you friends with Cherry? I haven't seen you around before."

Donnica smiled sweetly at her. "Oh, we've just met today-"

"Actually... we would like to ask you a question if you don't mind," Trynnadon interrupted.

"Um... sure? What's your question?"

He pulled out the picture and showed it to her. "Where are they? And don't even think of lying to us either."

"I-I don't-"

I was in front of her in a flash. I grabbed her and threw her against the wall. Cherry and Andrew started screaming. I held her there and she attempted to throw me off.

"No use, sweetheart," I said and bared my fangs.

She paled and went limp. I let her drop to the floor. I looked back at Trynnadon and Donnica. There fangs were out as well.

"What the fuck are you people," Crystal choked out.

"We're exactly what you think we are," Trynnadon said, his voice growing more menacing by the second.

Crystal gasped and looked towards Cherry and Andrew. "Did they hurt you?" They both nodded. "Oh."

"And you're about to suffer the same fate if you don't give us the answer we're looking for," I said.

"No. No. No. No. No. No, this can't be happening."

"But it is," said Donnica. "The evidence is all over the place. Try to do some cleaning, but apparently it wasn't good enough."

"I don't know-"

"The pool of dried blood in your garage. Where! Are they?"

"I have enough of this. Donnica, extract the answer from her," I hissed.

I waited as Donnica did just that. Crystal turn to run, but Donnica got a hold of her arm and turned her back around. She put her hand under Crystal's chin and tilted her head up to meet her eyes. Crystal's eyes were closed. Donnica blew in her face and her eyes

flew opened. She tried to close it, but Donnica had her fixed on her gaze.

"Seth? Breanna?" Donnica whispered. "Got it; and you're not going to like it."

"What do you mean?" asked Trynnadon.

"I only got the location. I didn't want to go any further, afraid what I'm going to find."

"So? What are we going to do with them?" I asked, a smile playing on my face.

"Ahem, are you thinking of what I'm thinking?" asked Donnica.

Trynnadon walked over to Cherry. She cringed away from him. He reached for her. Donnica went over to Andrew, and I guess I got the brunette. I pulled Crystal to me. She still had a dazed expression on her face. I whispered in her ear and she came back to reality. She focused on me, blinking wildly.

"Shall we have a screaming contest?" Donnica asked sweetly.

I chuckled. "No need to bring the whole house down, not sound proof you know."

She laughed. "I guessed not." And she struck, growling at the pleasure of feeding while at the same time, Trynnadon went for the kill.

"Look whose hungry," I said to them.

I pierced the delicate skin and the sweet coppery salted juice filled my mouth. I suckled and pulled at it. After a long minute, I let her go and got off. I didn't bother to close the two little wounds. Okay, more like tares to be exact.

"I'm still thirsty," said Trynnadon.

"Aren't we all?" asked Donnica.

"Lock up the house," I said as we headed out the door.

We walked down the streets of Los Angeles. People were still up late into the night, going on about their business. We entered a dark alley. A few teenagers were milling about, not minding their surroundings. I saw Trynnadon and Donnica making a turn around the corner. I heard Trynnadon whispering in my

head about where to meet. I mentally answered him back and I went closer to the weaker teenage girl of the crowd. I tapped her on the shoulder. She turned around, and I smiled charmingly down at her.

"Want to take a quick walk with me for a minute or two?" I asked.

"Sure, I'm Valerie."

"I'm Eric. What are you doing out this late?"

"I was just on my way home from the store."

I led her deeper into the darkness. She was looking this way and that way, probably looking for an escape. The noise of the street was gradually dying down. I found an abandon decrepitated shop of some sort. It looked like it was about to fall over any minute. The brown paint was chipping off here and there. The windows were cracked at some places, and the door barely hanging on its hinges. I carefully pulled the door aside.

"What are we doing here?" she asked, stealing a glance off to the side.

"Let's go in here for a few," I said.

"It looks like the building is about to fall any minute."

"Don't worry. I think it will hold for a little while longer."

I held the door and gestured her to go in first. I entered and very carefully closed it. It was darker in here and the girl was getting more panicky by the second. Her heart sped up and her breathing was becoming more unsteady.

"What are we doing here?" she asked for a second time.

"I could ask you the same thing, but my question is shouldn't you know by now about not going anywhere with someone you don't know?"

She shuddered. "I wasn't thinking."

I went closer to her. "It's a common mistake."

My cool fingers played along her arm. She made a small sound of surprise. I closed the short distance between us. I wrapped her in my embrace. She gasped and started to tremble.

"Are you cold?" I whispered in her ear.

She pushed and tried to break free. She pushed with all she got and I let her have it for a minute. I stepped back from her and watched as she pulled herself together. She let out a shaky sigh.

"Let me out of here."

"Oh I don't think so," I whispered.

I closed the short distance between us for a second time. She whirled away from me with a lucky kick at me on her part. I grabbed her and swung her back around. I swiftly pulled her to me. She screamed and hit me wherever she manages to find a target. I bend her backward and she went off balance.

"Don't you wish you were safely tucked away from people like me?" I whispered, my lips pressed to the side of her throat.

I clamp down before she could respond. Her shriek filled the empty building, echoing off of it like a cannon. I growl in pleasure. I tore at her throat and fed hungrily. She finally went quiet and her body went limp. I withdrew my fangs and closed the

wounds. I let go of her and she drop to the filthy ground. I licked my lips and sigh. I opened the door and drag the girl out with me. I left her lying a few yards from the building and took off to the sky, off to find Trynnadon and Donnica. I found them not too long after. I made my descent to the ground. They were hidden in the shadow of trees. Donnica was perching on one of the branches. She jumped down as I made my way towards them.

"Two blocks down," she said to me, her excitement barely contained.

We headed towards the rented house that was in the middle of nowhere. The house was surrounded by fence and who know what. We jumped it and landed lightly on the other side.

"Good thing it wasn't motion censored," I said.

"Oh, I didn't think about that," said Donnica. "Yeah, good thing."

We walked up to the front door. I twisted the knob. It was locked, no surprise there. I mentally unlock the door and opened it.

"Oh," I hissed out. "They're definitely here."

Trynnadon poked my back and we moved like a shadow into the house. We split and went our own way. Following the scent, I headed to the lower part of the house which turns out to be a basement. I opened the door and went down the stairs. The smell of blood grew stronger and stronger as I made my way further down into the basement. I looked around the room and found nothing. I silently swore and circled the basement. I let go all of my senses and searched. I picked up a mental thought and I followed it to the middle of the room. I sniffed the air searching. I looked down at the floor and carefully studied it. I could see a crack in the flooring. I bend down and ran my fingers over the line. I felt someone behind me and I looked up to find Donnica and Trynnadon staring down at me. Trynnadon nodded at me to open it. I was about to open it when we heard a muffling cry from underneath. We froze in place and just stared at the trapdoor. Donnica and Trynnadon went to the opposite side of the door and crouched down. I slowly pulled the door and it opened with the sound of nails on chalkboard. I let

go of the door and it fell sideway on to the floor. The smell of blood hit us full blast and we all backed away a few feet. I managed to control my impulses. I looked towards Trynnadon and Donnica. They were as controlled as they could be. We slowly made our way back to the trapdoor and looked down. I couldn't see Seth and Breanna from here, but they were definitely down there, slowly bleeding to death. Donnica gestured for me to go down first. I eased my way down and let go. I levitated downward to the ground and even though they could see me clearly, I signaled for the other two to follow. Trynnadon gracefully flew down and landed next to me. We waited as Donnica made her way down. She dropped down instead of floating, because she couldn't fly a bit. We stood in the darkness and looked around. We followed the scent and it led us to a door.

"Seth, Breanna? Are you in there?" asked Donnica.

We heard a whimper and with no time to waste, Trynnadon took the door off its hinges and we all burst into the room. Seth was covered in bruises, cuts, and has several fractured bones. Breanna was

unconscious and barely breathing. They were both blind folded, bounded with duct tape and handcuffed to a pole. Chains were wrapped around them, making it impossible to move. They were also gagged with a cloth of some sort. I pulled the cloth out of Seth's mouth and he started to cry some more. He tried to speak, but no words would come out.

"Let's get you both out of here," I said.

I broke both of the lock on the chains and began to remove the chains that were binding them. When I was finished, more than twenty feet of chain laid on the floor. Donnica and Trynnadon were getting the blind folds and the handcuffs off. Seth looked confused and out of focus. I gently picked him up and he cried out in pain. Trynnadon picked up Breanna and we both flew out of the trap room. We waited as Donnica joined us at the top landing of the basement. She opened the door and held it opened as we went through. We made it outside with no problems.

"You go ahead. I'll have Dr. Jenkins ready and waiting," said Donnica. Trynnadon and I both nodded and took off.

No words were exchanged between Trynnadon and me. We flew in silence as Seth drifted in and out of consciousness. During the whole flight, Breanna didn't stir an inch. It took us a little longer than usual to get home, and when we descended to the ground, Dr. Jenkins was there ready with a stretcher. Abby, Kara, and Holly came to help out. Trynnadon and I followed as Seth and Breanna were taken to the infirmary. James and Callan gave us the thumbs up as we passed them.

"Go wash up. I'll take very good care of them," said Jenkins. I nodded and I went to do just that.

After washing the blood off of me, I went to find Scarlett and Jessica. I found them sitting in the living room watching TV. They both looked up automatically as I came in.

"Hi," said Jessica.

"Hey," I said and went to sit next to them.

"We decided to stay," said Scarlett.

"Um... here?"

"We had a talk with James about it," said Jessica.

"Mmmm, I see. You are sure about staying with the NSC?" They both nodded. "Okay, you'll have a lifetime of fun up ahead." I shot a friendly smile at them both.

"Don't tell us about our parents, we don't need to know."

I chuckled. "I wasn't planning on telling you girls in the first place. You both looked tired, go get some sleep. I promise not to bite."

They both laugh and got up and left, disappearing around the corner as I watched.

Chapter Eighteen Reunite

I turned off the TV and stretched out on the couch. I drifted off for who knows how long, because when I next open my eyes, James, Callan, Donnica, and Trynnadon were staring at me.

"What?" I huffed out. "Why are you staring at me like you've never seen me sleep before?"

"Because vampires don't sleep," Holly said coming up the stairs.

"Says who?"

"Says the movies and books."

"Well, I can sleep if I want to. You humans are one of a kind."

"You believe the authors and the producers and yet there are five vampires in the same room with you," said Donnica, slightly amused.

"Yeah, I know."

"How long have I been out?" I asked.

"An hour or so," said Trynnadon.

Holly sat down on the ground and pulled a box full of chocolate turtles towards her. She unwrapped one and stuck it in her mouth.

"Are you going to eat that while we're around?" I asked.

"Yeah sure. Why not? You're not all going to bite me at the same time, are you?" Holly asked, looking around nervously. "One pair of fangs is painful enough, and plus you all fed."

"How can you be so sure?" I asked.

"By the color of your eyes."

"The colors of our eyes hardly mean anything," said Donnica. "It just meant that we can control our thirst without even trying."

"Ahem, mind changing the subject?" James asked wistfully.

"Okay," said Holly. "What do you want to talk about?"

"Nothing," I groan. "How do you eat that stuff?" I took a turtle out of Holly's hand and put it in my mouth.

"Hey!"

I chewed slowly and the sweetness of the caramel nearly made me gag. They were all staring at me with a surprise expression. I flipped them off and swallowed the thick glop.

"Go get me water, Holly."

"Yes Eric," she sighed. She put the box on the table and got up. "Ice?"

"No thanks," I said and she went to the kitchen.

I leaned back on the couch and stared at the ceiling. Holly came back with a glass of water a minute later. She handed it to me and I chugged it down in one gulp. I gave her back the cup and got up from the couch.

"Should we call Theresa?" Trynnadon asked.

I shook my head. "Not yet, I don't want them going ballistic on us."

Trynnadon chuckled. "That would be a sight to see. Of course, we can always control their mind."

"Any report from Jenkins?" I asked.

"He's working on them," said Kara. She walked in and plop herself down beside Holly.

"Well, um... Callan and I are going hunting if anybody wants to join," said James.

"I'm in," said Donnica. "Later Eric, Tryn. Don't bite each other's head off." She followed James and Callan out the door and vanished.

I made my way outside. The cool air of the night brushed against me as I made a run around the

house. Warren and Gabriella both turned around as they felt the wind of me passing by. I jump the gate and landed soundlessly on the other side. I heard a dog bark off the distance. I strode down Fifth Avenue in search of something to do. I walked a few more blocks until I spotted something suspicious. I let my telepathic ability probe the minds of the four humans. They were planning to gun down a random citizen. My fangs automatically stretched to its full length. I followed them down a few more streets. They turned a corner. They were in front of a gas station, and the clerk was finishing up his shift for the night. The clerk looked to be in his early twenties, about six feet tall with dirty blond hair and blue eyes. He has needle tracks all over his arms, and I can smell the faint hint of heroine off of him. He came out and walk briskly to his car. The four thugs silently followed behind him. Still reading their thoughts, I knew when the gun was coming out. I swiftly got in front of the clerk and knocked him to the ground. The bullet hit me on the side, and it caught me off balance for a second. I looked down at

the young man on the ground. His eyes were wide with shock.

"Are you okay?" I asked. He nodded, looking confused.

I turned back to face the gunman and took the gun out of his hand before he could fire off another round. He looked startled for a few seconds. The other three all pulled out a knife. One lunge forward and stabbed me. I laughed and grabbed him by the throat. I squeezed his hand that was holding the knife until he dropped it. I can feel the bullet slowly coming out of me.

"Drop the knife or your friend here will die," I said.

They didn't make a move. To make my point clear, I applied pressure, cutting off his airwaves. One by one they all dropped the knife, putting up their hands in surrender. I loosen my grip and stared at them hungrily.

"I've changed my mind. You all deserve to die."

I moved my hands to hold his arms in place and I swiftly put my mouth to his throat, and my fangs

pierced the skin. I silenced him before a scream can escape. I can taste a hint of some kind of drug. An unpleasant bittery taste mixed with the sweetness of blood. Two attempted to run, but I blocked them with the force of my power which held them in place. I finally let go of the one I was holding and he dropped to the ground hard, and I spit out my last mouthful of blood.

"What are you?" asked the gunman, his voice close to hysteria.

I looked at him blankly. "I. Am. A vampire," I glared at them.

I took a step closer to him. I put my hands on his shoulders and leaned in and whispered, "That... is what I am," and I struck like lightning, giving him a dose of the venom. It paralyzed him and he fell forward, forcing me to shift my position slightly. At least this one is not doped up, I thought to myself as I fed. I let him dropped as I straighten up. I finished up feeding off the other two and I finally turn my attention to the only human left who was still lying

on the ground with wide eyes and shock and a horrified expression clearly written on his face.

"I'm not going to kill you," I said.

He shuddered. "Thank you," he whispered, his voice shaking.

"Don't thank me, just consider yourself lucky." He nodded. "Get up," I told him.

Once he was up and composed himself, I reached to put my hand on his cheek. He looked up and I held him fixed to my gaze.

"You will not remember anything that happened tonight. You just finished up your job at the gas station and you got in your car and went straight home." He nodded. "Leave."

I watched as he got in his car and drove off. I picked up the knives and the bullet that dislodge from my body, and I turned and walked away from the scene with the treasured bullet in my hand and feeling well fed for once.

"I'm guessing that you had a marvelous night?" asked Gabriella.

"Yes to the midnight dinner and no on the marvelous night part." I picked up the question straight from her head. "I got shot and stabbed, to answer your question."

She blushed. "Oh, um, I'm sorry to hear that."

She opened the gate and I passed her without saying another word. I went inside and met the startled stare of Holly, Kara, and Abby. I ignored them and went to wash up. When I came out after cleaning myself up I found the first report from Jenkins on my desk. I picked it up and quickly scan through it. I picked up one of the knife that was covered with my blood. I picked up the rest and took it to the kitchen to be cleaned up and stored away in the weapon case. I washed the bullet and threw it in my trophy box. I chuckled in amusement as I walked out of the room. I entered the kitchen and Gabriella was standing at the sink, washing her hands. It just so happened that I didn't have to wash the bloody knife.

She turned and saw me coming towards her. She gave a gasp of surprise. I drop the knife into the sink.

"Put it in the weapon case when you're done making it look shiny and new as good," I said to her as she reached for it. I set the rest of the knives on the counter and left her at it.

I went back to my room to grab the report and headed to the infirmary. I knocked and I heard Deetra's tired voice telling me to come in. I opened the door and entered. I assumed that Seth and Breanna were moved into another room, because I didn't see them when I came in. Dr. Deetra is Dr. Jenkins partner. She stands at five foot six, her dark brown hair coming down to her shoulders, and her brown eyes focused on whatever she was writing. I walked over and hit her lightly with the paper that has the report written on it. She looked up and looked a little surprised to see me. I must have some kind of aura that sends out the danger-danger-keep-away alert or something, because I seem to get the startled looks from them when I'm near even if my intension was not to hurt them.

"I found the report on my desk, and I assume you want to tell me about it?" I said.

"Um yes I do actually," she said. "I've already told Donnica and the others about it while you were cleaning yourself up."

I pulled the chair opposite of her and sat down. "I'm all ears."

"Seth has seven broken ribs, a contusion to his brain, his-" She stopped abruptly as she saw my fangs.

"Go on," I hissed out.

She pulled herself together and continued on. "His right arm is broken to three parts and several cuts and bruises all over his body."

"That's all?"

She nodded. "Jenkins had to drill a hole in his head to stop the swelling. He shouldn't have survived at all. We lined up the bones in his arm and put his arm into a cast, and we taped him up tightly to let the ribs heal on its own. We also cleaned up the cuts and

bruises, and he is in a drug induce coma to allow the swelling to go down."

I growled. "What about Breanna?"

She sighed. "She has several cuts and bruises like Seth. She has many broken ribs, both of her legs are broken and her right arm is broken in two places. Her L2 to L4 vertebrae were fractured."

I groan and silently thank Trynnadon for holding her super still while flying. "Anything else?" I manage to say, even though I didn't want to hear any more of it.

"She also suffered a contusion, but not as bad as Seth."

"Will she be able to walk at all?" I finally asked the question I been dying to know.

"I don't know that as of yet. She might be paralyzed from her waist down. We won't know for sure until she wakes up. Jenkins and I are monitoring them closely. Anything can change in the twenty-four-hour timeframe. They'll pull through, if they were able to hang on until you guys came and found them, then they can pull through it again."

I sigh and nodded. "I have no way of how to thank both of you for doing what you guys do. The only thing I can say is thank you. I'm sure there family will be grateful for what you do as well."

"You're welcome and Jenkins and I thank you for rescuing them in time, if not, things would be different."

I forced a smile. "It's our pleasure."

I got up and sigh deeply. "Do you want this?" I asked, holding out the report.

"I'll take that and put it into the system," she said and took the paper out of my hand.

I gave one last sweep of the room and made my way slowly to the door. Before leaving, I told Deetra to come and find me or radio me when they wake up. She nodded and I left the infirmary. I went to look out the window to watch the dawn slowly approaching over the horizon.

"Hey man," said Trynnadon. "Feeling a little bored?"

"Yeah, I guess." Feeling the changing of temperature and the tingling sensation, I turned away from the window. "What?"

"Nothing."

I probed his mind for any clues. "Go hunt."

He stared at me intently. "I will be fine."

"Not from what I picked up from your mind, you sound about to lose it."

He shrugged. "I'll feed off Holly, she's coming this way."

"Please take her somewhere else."

He smiled. "Certainly. It was instincts so I didn't really do anything."

"What?"

"You were thanking me about Breanna?"

"Oh." I've forgotten that I was broadcasting loud and clear. I slam down on my thoughts, shutting Trynnadon out of my head.

He chuckled. "I was hoping you wouldn't do that," and he threw his shield up blocking me just the same. "Although I do agree that we should call their parents."

I nodded. "Have someone call them."

He pulled out his radio. "I'll see you around."

"See ya later," I said and he turned and ran off.

Three hours later, I am outside waiting for the Kegorah's family to arrive. Kallie is on her way to pick them up. I jumped up and sat on the strongest fattest branch I could find. I pulled one of the leaves and crushed it in my hand. I threw it and it land on Scarlett's head. She looked up and I flash an evil grin down at her. She came over to where I was perched and started to climb the tree. I leaned down and help her up to where I was. I pulled her into my lap and the branch sway slightly. She clung on me as if I were a lifeline of some sort. I held her a little tighter and she relaxed.

"What are you doing up this early in the morning?" I asked her.

She smiled. "I couldn't go back to sleep."

"Is Jessica awake too?"

She shook her head. "She's sleeps like a rock."

I smiled. "Do you have to jump on her to get her up?"

She giggled. "Yeah or put ice down her shirt."

I chuckled. "I'll have to remember that." She shifted uncomfortably. "I wasn't thinking about that, but now you've mention it. Maybe I'll consider biting her while she's sleeping."

"I wasn't thinking about that."

I tapped her forehead. "Remember?" She blushed. "You look very delicious when you do that." She blushed even redder. "Stop that."

She buried her face in her hands. "Sorry. I totally forgot that you could read my mind."

"It's a good piece of advice to remember when you're around vampires, keep that in mind."

She nodded. "I will from now on."

"Very good." I trace one of the scars on her hand.

She followed my movement. "Will that ever go away?"

"I don't know you'll have to talk to Dr. Jenkins about it."

She nodded. "I heard vampires have super healing powers."

"Mmhmm?"

"Jessica says if a human drinks a vampire's blood, they would be healed of everything."

"Are you asking me to heal your scars?"

She blushed. "Please?"

"Are you quite sure you want to do it?"

She nodded. "Yeah."

"Let's get down from the tree then."

"Okay."

I turned her around. "Hold on tight," I told her and I slid off the tree and slowly made my way to solid ground. "Let's go inside. You'll get very sleepy after ingesting blood."

We went inside and I led her to her room. Jessica was still soundly asleep. I sat her down on her bed. She looked a little nervous.

"You look unsure about this. You still want to go through with it?" I asked.

"I do."

"I'll have to admit you're the first to ask." I tilt her head back. "Open your mouth wide unless you want blood stains on your bed sheet."

She opened her mouth and quick as lightning I struck my own wrist. Blood flowed out and into Scarlett's waiting mouth. "Drink," I commanded.

She locked her mouth to my wrist and started to pull and suck. She choked and gag at the first few drops. I watched her as she started to get sleepy. After a few seconds, I took my healed wrist away from her and laid her down, her unfocused eyes watching me. I got up from the bed and pulled the blanket over her. I touched her cheek and turned her to look at me. I let my gaze wash over her and sleep pressed down on her like a veil.

"Sweet dreams," I whispered and left the room, closing the door quietly behind me.

I heard Kallie over the radio telling us that she wasn't far. I went back outside to wait for them. Trynnadon was out by Warren. Gabriella waved at me as I walked over to her.

"How's it going?" she asked.

"It's going well."

"I heard Breanna is awake."

"She is?" Just then I heard Deetra's voice over the radio informing me what Gabriella just told me.

"There you go. Are you going to wait for her family or are you gonna go and see her?"

"I'll wait, if you don't mind."

"If you don't bite me then I'm fine with you around."

"I promise not to bite."

I leaned against the gate and gazed out into the street; cars wiz by, music blaring, people texting and

talking on their cell while driving. I felt the sudden change in the air. I looked behind me.

"They're down the road," said Trynnadon. "You want to control them?"

"You can have the honor," I said.

He smiled. "My pleasure."

A car with tinted windows stopped in front of the gate. The gate opened and Kallie slowly entered and drove up to the garage and parked. She came out of the car followed by six people. Jane, Alyssa, Leo, and Lily looked excited to be back and Teresa and Sam looked around with interests. Trynnadon walked up to them. He greeted the kids and met the eyes of Theresa and Sam. He had them under in a split second. I finally walked over to meet them. Jane jumped straight at me and I caught her before she fell over.

"Hey there kid." I ruffled her hair playfully.

"Hi!" she said and she hugged me with all her might.

"I get no hug from you?" said Trynnadon, tickling her. She laughed and tore away from me and into his embrace. "It's good to see you again kiddo."

Leo, Lily, and Alyssa walked over to us and flung their arms around us. Trynnadon poked Alyssa and she slightly winced.

"How's the big protective sister doing?" he asked.

"The big protective sister is doing great," she said, laughing.

"Theresa, Sam, come and join us," Trynnadon called to them.

They both walked over and I shook hands with them even though we met before. "Shall we go see Seth and Breanna?" I asked. They all nodded. "Lead the way Kallie."

Nine of us filed inside. We went down the hall to the infirmary. We stopped at the door and Trynnadon lifted the mind control. Sam and Theresa both looked surprised, but didn't say anything. Their thoughts were loud and clear to my ears. They were wondering how on earth they got here in the first

place. I told Kallie that we'll take it from here and she wave good-bye and left.

"This is the infirmary," I said. "I don't know what condition they'll be in. I haven't seen them for myself so be prepared for anything."

They all nodded. "We'll do our best," said Theresa.

Trynnadon opened the door and we all enter. We were met by Dr. Deetra and Dr. Jenkins. "Good morning to you all," said Dr. Jenkins.

"You must be Seth and Breanna's doctor," said Theresa.

He nodded. "Yes and this is my partner, Dr. Deetra."

"It's nice to meet you. I'm Theresa and this is Sam, my husband and this is the rest of our kids."

"It's a pleasure to meet all of you. Why don't all of you follow me and I'll take you in to see Seth and Breanna."

We followed Jenkins and Deetra into another room. This room is much bigger than the other room. I guessed the rooms were clean and bleached very

well, because I couldn't smell any blood lingering in the air. The room was bared of pictures and colors.

"We need to brighten up the infirmary a little," I said to Jenkins.

"I know. We definitely need to put some cheery colors up in here. Seth and Breanna are just behind that door."

He opened the door and I gently pushed Sam and Theresa in front of me. "Go in first," I told them.

They stepped in and Theresa broke down at the sight of them hooked up to several tubes and monitors. She came over to where I was standing and thank Trynnadon and me over and over again. Alyssa touched my hand and asked if she can go in. I nodded and motion for them all to go in. Only Trynnadon and I remained outside the door looking in. Jenkins was examining Breanna. I waited as he told everyone present that she was paralyzed from the waist down. Several questions were asked by Theresa and Sam. Seth finally came to and looked dazedly around the room. He tried to pull his breathing tube out, but

Deetra was there to prevent him from hurting himself.

"I want to keep them for one more day or two," said Jenkins. "I want to be sure that no infections or any complication would arise that would put their life on the line in the future. Let's let them rest, you can see them again tonight." They all nodded.

Trynnadon and I moved out of the doorway and one by one they all exited the room. Once again Trynnadon had Sam and Theresa under his mind control. I led them to the kitchen where Kallie prepared lunch for them and the kids. The mind control lifted as we entered the kitchen. At the table were Jessica, Scarlett, Kara, Abby, and Holly. James, Donnica, and Callan were leaning against the wall. They all straighten up when we enter. Greetings were exchange and lunch consist of fried chicken with mashed potato, corn, and garlic bread was passed around. Half an hour later, Donnica pulled me aside.

"Should we let them have family time, if you know what I mean?" she winked at me.

I nodded. "Call the rest out here and have Kallie tell them about it."

James, Callan, and Trynnadon came out followed by the rest of the NSC members. We let Theresa, Sam, and their kids have a moment of alone time to discuss things in privacy. Jessica and Scarlett went out for a ride while Kara, Kallie, Holly, Abby went to other parts of the house to find something to do. Donnica and I went outside to hang with Gabriella and Warren. Trynnadon, James, and Callan went somewhere else. It was an hour later when Lily and Jane came out to find us. The group reassembled and everything was picked up and restored back to the way it was before. Several hours later, the family went back to the infirmary. They stayed a night here and the very next afternoon, Deetra gave the news that Seth and Breanna can go home along with a bunch of medications, paper work containing important information, and a return appointment for a month later. Jessica walked them out the door as Trynnadon, Donnica, and I watched from the doorway. Sam and Theresa helped Breanna and Seth get in the car and shouts of good-byes and we'll see

you again came through the opened window as they drove off into the bright afternoon sun.

Epilogue Six Months Later

Sam and Theresa still thank the NSC for finding and bringing Seth and Breanna home. We keep repeating what a great time we had and we couldn't be happier with the outcome at the end. We finally let them visit our home without being under the influence of Trynnadon's mind control. They were happy to finally get to see it, after hearing talks about it from the kids. They also get to see the dungeon/holding cell and the trap room. No, I didn't bite them if that's what you're thinking of and neither has the other vampires. We can be on our best behavior, see? Oh and we did clean up before they came over to visit. Seth and Breanna are now seeing a counselor. They are slowly coming to terms with the fact that everything in the world aren't perfect and sometime you have to learn to live with the nightmare that will stick with you forever and try to live a normal happy healthy life. They are also working with a couple of physical therapists. Although Breanna is in a

wheelchair, she is not giving up hope of one day being able to walk again. I told her to call me with the news if it happens, because I want to be there to see for myself.

The police have found twelve bodies. They are still investigating the crime scene where the bodies have been found. No clues pointed to any suspects as of yet. I wonder if that would ever happen. They found the blood I spat out at one of the crime scenes. They tested it but no DNA profile could be pulled up from any database. I guess my saliva killed it after all. They are still looking for the murder weapon. They don't have any ideas to what kind of weapon was used. The police have asked around, but no one seems to know or remember what happened. The people that couldn't remember what happen had to go through the lie detector test. The results of a pass were the same for all of them. There was nothing for them to go by so back to square one. If the investigation goes on any longer, I think it will go into the cold case files where all the other unsolved cases are kept.

Donnica is now staying with the NSC. She is not thinking of leaving us anytime soon. I guess she had too much fun being here. Jessica is now helping Wesley out in the genius department. She is attending UCLA. She is majoring in computer engineering. She has gotten over the attack inflicted upon her that one fateful night. She would have bled to death if I hadn't been walking down that street the very same night, but she still has nightmares about it from time to time. Scarlett is going to attend high school in the fall. I have confidence that she'll do just fine. She's also seeing a counselor along with Jessica to deal with their physical and emotional past. Gabriella is still working in the security department with Warren. She likes it there so that is where she will stay until she changes her mind. I still hunt humans, I can't help it. There blood is too good to give up. Animal blood is not my type anyways. Trynnadon still hunts with me night after night. Donnica sometimes join in, but she likes to hunt alone. James and Callan are hunting partners. We do run into each other from time to time. You can damn us to hell as much as you like, but we can't help being

who we are. We're a bunch of blood sucking assholes. That is what we are. So live with it, unless you can find some smartass creative sneaky ways to decapitate our heads or burn us. Just remember that we're silently stalking, watching, listening and waiting in the shadows for that very next unlucky victim to cross over the invisible line, straight into our embrace.

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THE END

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# About the Author

**Alina882**